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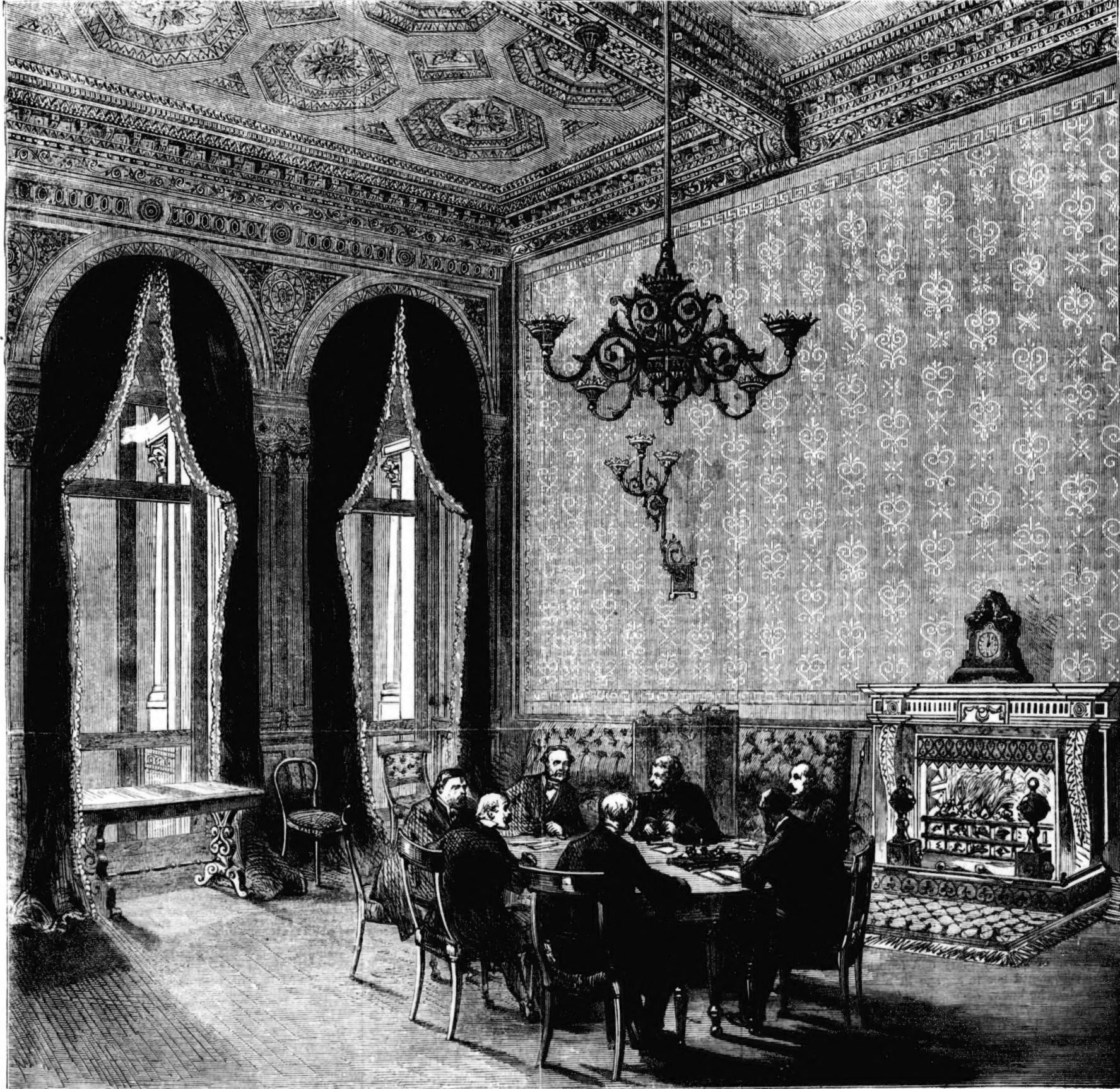
WHAT NEXT IN FRANCE?

SORELY harassed France has at last gained a little breathing time, at the cost, however, of her capital; but her troubles are not by any means at an end. Indeed, the issues before her are of the very gravest nature. She has, under peculiarly unfavourable circumstances, to choose a National Assembly in order that the question, Peace or War? may be decided; and, in choosing that assembly, she will herself have to decide the question. On the character of the

men selected to meet at Bordeaux will depend in a great measure the future of France, both immediately and remotely; for upon them will devolve the duty of concluding peace, if peace is to be concluded, or of carrying on the war, if war is to be continued. But that is not the only point the French people have to decide at the elections on the 8th instant: they have also to make up their minds as to what form of Government they shall adopt in the future. They live at present under what is nominally a Republic,

but is really a Dictatorship; and they must now either confirm and properly constitute the Republic, or substitute something else for it. What course are they likely, or ought they, to pursue on both these momentous points?

Of course, it is no business of ours; we have no right to meddle—perhaps not even to advise—in the matter. To the French people belongs the right, as upon them devolves the duty, of deciding what course they shall pursue in shaping their conduct for the present—that is, in settling whether it



THE BLACK SEA CONFERENCE IN SESSION AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE, WHITEHALL, LONDON.



shall be peace or war; and of providing for the future—that is, in adopting whatever form of government they think best suited to their position and most likely to conduce to their welfare. And yet it is impossible not to feel profound interest in both questions. On the first—peace on such terms as can be obtained, or war *à outrance*, and at whatever sacrifices, the issue seems simple enough, though not on that account the less hard to decide. If there be no longer a hope of successful resistance, as there certainly seems none, except at the cost of unheard-of sacrifices and suffering, then prudence would counsel submission to the inevitable, however painful that inevitable may be. Paris has succumbed, after a noble resistance that must redound to the credit of her citizens in all time to come. She has borne what no one expected her to bear; she has done what few, if any, thought she would do. She has been conquered by famine, not by force. Her honour has been saved by resistance while that was possible; and the lives of her citizens and the noble monuments she contains have been preserved by submission when resistance was possible no longer. And is not the capital, in this as in other matters, a type and symbol of all France? Can the provinces continue the war with any hope of success now that Paris has fallen? Have not they, too, done their part, and, all things considered, done it nobly? Are not they, too, beaten? And ought not they also to yield to the inevitable? Are there armies in France now capable of coping with the victorious cohorts of Germany? or are there any prospects of such armies being forthcoming in time to save the country from further—nay, from utter—devastation and ruin? To onlookers like ourselves here in England there seems no break in the cloud that lowers over France, and but small hope, if any, of good coming of further warfare. To our mind, then, peace is the true and wise policy for France at this juncture: unless, indeed, the conditions imposed be altogether too grievous to be borne; and, in that case, we shall know how to honour the motives that prompt further resistance, though we shall deplore the necessity that dictates it.

But, supposing peace concluded—and, indeed, whether it is or not—France must decide upon a form of government; for after the meeting of a National Assembly the existing state of things will be impossible. That Assembly must take the control of affairs into its own hands, and must determine the name under which, and select the men by whom, the business of the nation is to be carried on. And what name should that be? and what manner of men ought the Assembly to choose for working out the nation's will? Here the alternatives—unfortunately, as we think—are many. There is the legitimate monarchy, with the Count de Chambord—or Henry V., as he styles himself—as its embodiment. But that, we fancy, may be at once dismissed from consideration. France, we are persuaded, will have nothing to do with the elder branch of the Bourbons, whose characteristic now, as ever, is to learn nothing and forget nothing. The deliverances of the Count de Chambord since the war began make that plain enough. "France—that is me," appears to be as much his creed as it was that of his ancestor, Louis XIV. The Count de Chambord, we doubt not, loves France; but it is not France for herself, but France as belonging to him, that is the object of his affection; and the days for that kind of patriotism are past. Then there is a monarchy with a scion of the House of Orleans on the throne. And in that, we think, there might be hope of happiness, freedom, and prosperity for France. But, then, is there any one member of that family of sufficient prominence to command the suffrages and universal respect of Frenchmen? Amiable, cultivated, high-minded, and able as are the sons and grandsons of Louis Philippe, almost without exception, and sensible and becoming as has been their conduct in the protracted exile they have had to endure, they have been too long estranged from the affairs of France, their names and their persons are too little known to Frenchmen, for any one of them to be able to command the confidence necessary for the man who would assume the chief direction of affairs at this crisis. In short, their adherents are too few and too much discredited just at present to make it at all likely that the election should fall upon any one among them. Next, there is a restoration of the empire, either in the person of Napoleon III. himself, or that of his son, with the Empress as Regent; and busy intriguers are at work to accomplish that restoration. But surely France is not yet sunk so low as to take back the Bonapartes, to submit again to the rule of the man (for he would rule in reality, whoever did so in name) who began by betraying her confidence, and subverting the institutions he had sworn to maintain; who filched away her liberties; who emasculated her intellect; who undermined her moral rectitude, social and political; who wasted her resources in riotous living and in pampering unworthy favourites; who for years fed her aspirations after freedom with words of promise to the ear only to break them to the hope; who fostered and stimulated her paltry jealousy of the strength and importance of neighbouring peoples, as well as her mad love of military glory and foolish lust of dominion; who encouraged her to engage in a war, unjust in itself, and which he knew, or ought to have known, she was not prepared to wage; who corrupted the high officers of the army as well as the high officers of State, and demoralised the soldiery; who presumed to command her armies only to guide them to destruction; and who—crowning infamy of an infamous career—would now be so mean, so utterly abject, as to sneak back to power under cover of a woman's petticoat, and even with the help—or rumour and his own iends belie him sadly—of foreign bayonets, and those

bayonets in the hands of his country's enemies! Oh, no! surely France will never consent to take back her discarded Emperor at the bidding of him of Germany. Legitimist, Orleanist, anything rather than such deep degradation as this!

Finally, there is the Republic; and in that, as it seems to us, the only hope for France lies. To consolidate Republican institutions may be a task of difficulty; but so would be the settlement of any of the other systems of government mentioned. There might be storms; but they would be health-giving and bracing, as all storms are. Turbulent men—and we doubt not that there are many such in France—might make themselves troublesome; but so would they under any régime. There might be ignorance and prejudice to contend with; but the very contention would tend to eradicate both. The residents in French towns, we are told, are shallow and unstable theorists, and the French peasants are sunk in the crassest ignorance. Admit both statements to be true, and what then? Who,—what is to blame for these things? Monarchy has had the predominance in France; and monarchs have not made Frenchmen enlightened, moderate, or really civilised. The only truly bright spots in French history are those in which Republicanism, or the spirit of Republicanism, has held sway. French Kings and at least one French Emperor have leaned for support on the influence of the priests, and the priests (as priests always do) have kept the people in ignorance, in order that they might control them. The same thing would occur again. Monarch and priest would once more combine to debase, so that they might rule, the people. Whereas Republicanism, from its very nature and in order to its existence, must seek to educate and enlighten them. It is usual to say that, inasmuch as Republicanism is the highest form of government yet known to man, to work it successfully requires that man should have attained to the highest possible degree of intellectual and moral development; and that, as Frenchmen have not attained to that measure of development, they are unfit to live under a Republic. But to say this is only to pronounce the condemnation, not of Republics, but of Monarchs. Monarchies have had the office of teacher, and the people are not taught. Monarchies, therefore, have failed; and it is time that Republicanism had a trial. And we hope that France will now give it a trial, and a fair one; and, furthermore, that she will be left at liberty to work out the great experiment in her own way. The Republic, at the worst, could only do as the Monarchs have done—fail; and then, perhaps, the Kings might claim a turn again.

THE CONFERENCE.

OUR Engraving shows the Conference on the Black Sea question in Session at the Foreign Office, Whitehall. Lord Granville presides, as the representative of England; and the other Powers whose Ministers are present are Germany, Austria, Russia, Turkey and Italy. There is one vacant chair—that which ought to be occupied by the representative of France; and there is still doubt as to whether it will be filled, or who will fill it. M. Jules Favre was expected to do so; but he has had more urgent business in hand, and till affairs in France assume a more settled aspect it is possible that no delegate from that country will be appointed, though how the Treaty of 1856 is to be revised in the absence of one of the principal parties to its conclusion, it is difficult to see. The same difficulty is felt elsewhere, as well as in London, for it is reported in Constantinople that the Conference will not be closed until France is represented. In Vienna it is stated that the prolonged adjournments of the Conference are due to the opinion entertained that no valid modification of the treaty can be made without the actual presence of a representative of France, and also because the solution of the Black Sea question has given rise to greater difficulties than were at first anticipated. The Conference was to have met on Tuesday, but owing to the indisposition of Lord Granville, who was suffering from a slight attack of gout, the sitting was postponed till yesterday (Friday).

THE ALLEGED SUPPLIES OF ENGLISH ARMS TO THE FRENCH.—The military correspondent of the *Times* with Prince Frederick Charles writes from Le Mans on the 18th ult.:—"The morning greeting of Prussian officer to Prussian officer two days ago was, 'We have occupied the entrenched camp at Conlie, and taken an immense number of English arms.' So I rode over to Conlie yesterday with the determination to get at the truth. There were a few miserable old muzzle-loading Enfields, which must have been taken from among those condemned by our Government as unfit for use, probably rejected at proof, or they would long ago have been converted into snider breech-loaders. There were also a mass of American arms, some packed in boxes, others standing in rows or laid in heaps under the shelter of wooden huts. The rifles were Spencers, none of which are manufactured at all in England. They bore the American mark, and I brought one into head-quarters in order that there might be no doubt. The ammunition was also American, from South Coventry, Connecticut. As a proof, you may perhaps like to reprint the label which is enclosed. It was taken from a box marked as containing 1008 cartridges, and the box was one of an immense heap left behind by the French:—42 Metallic Cartridges for the Spencer and Joslyn Carbine, No. 56 Navy and Infantry Size, Manufactured by Crittenden and Tibbals Mfg Co., South Coventry, Conn., U.S."

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.—On Thursday a meeting of this institution was held at its house, John-street, Adelphi, London—Thomas Chapman, F.R.S., V.P., in the chair. Richard Lewis, Esq., the secretary, having read the minutes of the previous meeting, the silver medal of the institution and a copy of its vote inscribed on vellum were ordered to be presented to Mr. William Grant, coxswain of the Margate life-boat Quiver, together with £8 18s. to himself and the crew of the boat, in testimony of their recent gallant services in saving from the rigging of the sunken brig Sarab, of Sunderland, the crew of six men. It was blowing a gale from the eastward, with a heavy sea on the sands, and the snow was falling fast, when the men were rescued by the life-boat from what would otherwise have been an inevitable death. Rewards to the amount of £356 were also granted to the crews of other life-boats for recent services. These great services represent, during the storms of the past few weeks, altogether upwards of one hundred persons saved from sundry shipwrecks. Various other rewards were likewise granted to the crews of shore-boats for saving life from wrecks on our coasts. Payments amounting to £1228 were also ordered to be made on several life-boat establishments. Various liberal contributions to the institution were announced as having been received from Huntingdon, Bristol, Norwich, Bradford, Wolverhampton, Dawlish, Newport (Monmouthshire), Greenock, and other places, including one of £500 in aid of the general objects of the institution, and £10 a year from E. P. S., who gave the Barnmouth life-boat to the society some four years since. The late Miss L. E. Meynell-Ingram, of Hoar Cross, had bequeathed to the institution £300, free of duty; and the late Miss Ann Buckle, of York, had left it £19. The Government of Italy, in acknowledgment of the gallant services rendered by the Ballycotton life-boat to an Italian vessel wrecked on the Irish coast some time since, had also sent the society a donation of £20. During the past month new life-boats had been stationed by the institution at Pakefield, Suffolk; at Troon, Ballantrae; and Buckie, on the coast of Scotland. The thanks of the institution, inscribed on vellum, were presented to Admiral Craigmie and Captain I. W. D. McDonald, R.N., in acknowledgment of their valuable co-operation as hon. secretaries respectively of its Dawlish and Bembridge branches. Reports were read from the inspectors and assistant inspectors of life-boats to the society on their recent visits to the coasts. The proceedings then terminated.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The news of the capitulation of Paris and the conclusion of an armistice has caused great surprise and dissatisfaction at Bordeaux. On Sunday evening a large political meeting was held in the Great Theatre, and a unanimous protest against the armistice was passed, and resolutions were adopted demanding the maintenance of power in the hands of Gambetta, war *à outrance*, and the assembly of a committee of Republicans at Bordeaux. There was afterwards a demonstration before the Prefecture in honour of Gambetta, who, however, did not appear, owing, it was announced, to indisposition. The crowd dispersed amid cries of "Vive Gambetta!" "Vive la République!" The Municipal Council, in its sitting of Tuesday, unanimously adopted a resolution protesting against any conditions of peace violating the national honour, and urging the Government to continue the war *à outrance*. From other districts of France the news as to the feeling of the people is inconclusive.

A very sad impression is said to have been produced in Lyons by the news of the capitulation of Paris. The municipality were for resistance, and had sent a deputation to Bordeaux. From Dijon we learn that when the commanders of the troops were informed of the capitulation they were much grieved.

M. Gambetta, in a proclamation to the Prefects, pronounces for war *à outrance*, and advises that the period of the armistice should be employed in reinforcing the armies with men, ammunition, and provisions. The Municipal Council of Bordeaux has passed a resolution protesting against any conditions of peace which shall not entirely guard the national honour, and calling on the Delegation of the Government to remain at its post, and to continue to prepare with the greatest energy for war to the death. M. Gambetta complains that since the brief telegram from M. Favre informing him of the capitulation and armistice he has received no communication from him or any other member of the Government at Paris.

M. Crémieux, the Minister of Justice, has sent the following despatch to the Prefects:—"A decree is issued abrogating the electoral incompatibilities resulting from article 82 up to article 89 inclusively of the Law of 1849. The National Assembly will meet in the Grand Theatre, where preparations are already being made.

M. Jules Simon, the French Minister of Public Instruction, has left Paris for Bordeaux, which city he represented in the Corps Législatif. He is to confer with the Delegation Government there, the powers of which are annulled; and no action it may take will be legal unless in conjunction with that of the Government in Paris.

According to a "Lombard" telegram M. Jules Favre and his colleagues have telegraphed to the Delegation of Government at Bordeaux, withdrawing and annulling the power which the latter have exercised for the last four months of acting separately from the Paris Government. They notify that any action taken by the Bordeaux Ministers in future will be legal only if it takes place in concert with the central Government in Paris. In order to understand the effect of this notification—supposing it to have been issued—it is necessary to remember that MM. Gambetta, Fourichon, Crémieux, and Glaiz-Bizoin were not delegated by a body to which they did not themselves belong. They were Ministers before they became a Delegate Government, and Ministers they remain. M. Gambetta became Minister of the Interior on the formation of the Government of National Defence, and assumed the Ministry of War on reaching Tours, thus doubling General Le Flo. M. Crémieux is Minister of Justice, and Admiral Fourichon of Marine. It would seem that after this withdrawal of their special powers the ex-delegates are just so many members of the Government absent from their posts.

The American Confederate General Beauregard has arrived at Bordeaux.

BELGIUM.

In Wednesday's sitting of the Chamber of Representatives M. Louvier asked the Government whether it was not advisable to send home a larger number of the militia now that an armistice had been concluded at Paris. Baron d'Anthenan replied as follows:—

After the events at Sedan, as the belligerents removed from our frontier, we dismissed 35,000 men on furlough; but an army was still required to watch the frontier on account of the prevalence of rinderpest, and because we had also six dépôts of interned French prisoners to guard. When the military operations again brought the belligerents near our frontier—when Longwy was besieged, and the siege of Givet became imminent—we had to reinforce our army of observation, and we called out about 13,000 men. This step was attributed to the existence of a plot among the French prisoners in Germany. Our information confirmed the fact of a plot being prepared; but this was not the cause of our recalling the troops. As regards the sending home of militia now, if the armistice concluded at Paris is carried out, we shall immediately send back several classes; orders have already been given to that effect; but if the care of neutrality should require fresh sacrifices, the Government will not hesitate to make a renewed call upon the patriotism of the Chamber. It is well known what is going on at Bordeaux, Lille, and other towns; and the Government will not dismiss the militia unless the armistice is accepted and carried out.

ITALY.

It is stated in Florence that frequent communications are being exchanged between the Cabinets of Vienna, London, Florence, and St. Petersburg in consequence of the late events in France. Up to the present the result has been that Prussia has not shown any desire to accept the friendly suggestions of the Powers, wishing to reserve to herself exclusively the right of laying down the conditions of peace.

A Royal decree, published on Wednesday, abolishes the Lieutenantcy of Rome. A second decree appoints Signor Gadda, the Minister of Public Works, as Royal Commissioner at Rome. The Chamber of Deputies, by 232 votes against 29, approved on Wednesday the bill transferring the capital of the kingdom of Italy from Florence to Rome. The bill passed with the modifications introduced by the Senate. The Chamber continues the discussion of the guarantees to be afforded to the Pope. Some deputies put forward proposals establishing full liberty for the Church.

SPAIN.

A Ministerial circular to the Spanish diplomatic agents abroad has been published. It recounts the work performed by the Cortes and the devotion displayed by Marshals Serrano and Prim in their administration for the improvement of the condition of the finances. The foreign policy of Spain is to live at peace with all nations. The circular deplores the prolongation of the Franco-German war, and states that England, Italy, France, and Belgium have recognised the new Government, which desires to re-establish relations with the Pope.

The election of deputies in the provinces Alava, Guipuzcoa, and Biscay has been suspended for the present.

The troops in the capital, to the number of 40,000, took the oath of allegiance to the new King on Tuesday. The ceremony occupied seven hours, and a blinding snowstorm is said to have prevailed all the time.

The Madrid correspondent of the *Telegraph* says that the Government is in possession of important revelations respecting the assassination of General Prim. The principal agent in the affair is said to have been an ex-detective, in the employ of Gonzalez Bravo, who distributed large sums of money to the conspirators. Prominent persons connected with another dynasty are also implicated.

PORTUGAL.

The Bishop of Vizcaya, the Minister of the Interior, and Senhor Cavalho, Minister of Justice, have resigned. The Marquis d'Avila is reconstructing the Cabinet. The Duchess of Braganza is seriously ill.

GERMANY.

The Federal Council of the German Empire has been convoked, by a decree of the Emperor, for Feb. 20. The elections for the German Parliament will take place on March 3, and the Parliament will meet on the 9th of the same month.

A notification has been issued by the postal authorities in Berlin stating that open letters will be dispatched to Paris at the old rates, but that no closed letters will be sent.

The German party of progress (Fortschrittspartei), which differs from the National Liberal party something as Whigs from Radicals, says in its appeal to the electors:—"The purpose of the German party of progress is now as before—liberty in United Germany, obtained as yet only partly by the constitution of the German Empire. By the free exchange of opinions, by practical political co-operation with the deputies of South Germany, will the party of progress, maintaining unchanged its old approved principles, gain the force for forming a party embracing all Germany. The duty is urgent to make clear and strong the consciousness that never shall be repeated what, during a dark time was inflicted on the German people after the wars of liberation (1813-15).

AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

In Tuesday's sitting of the Hungarian Delegation, in the course of the debate on the extraordinary credit for the increase of the military strength of the empire, Count Beust said, in reply to the previous speaker:—

"Although I agree with the views expressed, that we have no cause for apprehension, seeing that our relations with Germany have become most friendly, the object of the Government must nevertheless be not only to maintain, but also to strengthen, these relations. It is not sufficient that our new friend is aware that we neither fear nor suspect him, but our great enemy must be that one friend must not only not fear the other, but also respect him; and we require this respect in order to arrive at a complete friendship with him."

In the Austrian Delegation, on the same day, Count Beust further explained the policy of Austria. He said:—

"Our policy will be one of prudence and reserve, and, at the same time, of most decided endeavours to maintain, strengthen, and act in accordance with the good relations which have been entered into with a great neighbouring Power. But who can pretend to foreshadow the exact limits which one's hopes and wishes would prefer to lay down for the great and unexpected reconstitution of things that has sprung out of recent events? Under these circumstances, it does not suffice for a State that has no other aim than self-preservation to be content with the consciousness of this one idea, which is not injurious to its neighbours. Safety is only certain when this policy is seen to be, not the emanation of conscious weakness, but the expression of one's free will. If we have done nothing to oppose or impede the reconstruction of Germany; if we have met this reconstruction of the German nation with nothing but a friendly welcome; if we have endeavoured to regulate our relations with another neighbouring State without neglecting our own interests, but at the same time without being actuated by other than conciliatory motives; if, finally, towards a third Power we have shown ourselves friendly, and full of respect for its independence, and even did not recoil before the necessity of violating sentiments which in our own country we hold in esteem, then others must and will know that we are all the more entitled to expect that in our own home we shall be let alone, and that, if attacked, we will at all times be ready to defend ourselves. The dearly-bought fruit of recent occurrences is the establishment of an equal perception of these facts, the consequent necessity of making demands upon the resources of the country in both portions of the empire, and the creation of the only possible patriotism, one that cements the different nationalities of Austria."

RUSSIA.

The proclamation of the German empire is reported (the *Eastern Budget* says) to have produced a very unpleasant impression at the Russian Court. The "old Russian" party, led by the Czarewitsch and M. Katkov, editor of the *Moscow Gazette*, is daily gaining ground; and the Emperor himself, who has hitherto been a staunch adherent of the traditional friendship of his house with that of Prussia, is said to be highly incensed at the new title assumed by King William. It is especially remarked that the proclamation of the empire was not, as usual in such cases, first notified to St. Petersburg. The Austro-Prussian rapprochement also inspires great anxiety, and it is feared that difficult as will arise as to the question of the Baltic provinces, which has lately been discussed with great warmth by the semi-official Prussian press.

ROUMANIA.

In the elections of deputies for Bucharest to the Chambers the Red Party was victorious, carrying successfully all its candidates.

The *Morning Post* publishes a remarkable letter which it says has been addressed by Prince Charles to a friend in Germany. The Prince deplores the fact that he has been of little use to the country over which he has been called to rule, and he has asked himself often whether the fault is his or that of his subjects. He comes to the conclusion that neither party is to blame, and that the failure he has to lament must be attributed to the mistakes of the Roumanian political leaders. These men, educated abroad and imbued with foreign notions, have contrived to set up Liberal institutions for which the population are not prepared, and to this fact the Prince ascribes the non-success of his efforts. He is determined, however, to make a last attempt, which will probably lose him all his popularity. "Whoever has the courage in certain situations to proclaim the truth, and to call things by their right names, very frequently gets the worst in this world, and so it will probably also happen with me, only with this difference gratefully acknowledged by me, that I am free to return to an independent life free from cares, and blessed with domestic happiness in my beloved native country, whose strong magnet never ceased to attract me during the sorrowful hours which I had to pass through. I deplore only with all my heart that my good intentions have been so misconceived and rewarded with ingratitude. Since, however, this is the fate I have in common with most mortals, I shall know how to console myself."

THE UNITED STATES.

Rossa and the other released Irish political prisoners who sailed with him in the Cuba were received on their arrival at New York by large crowds of persons, who greeted them with vociferous cheers. They were escorted to their hotels by members of the Legion of St. Patrick. Arrived there, Rossa was presented with an address and 1000 dollars. He said he should reserve the money until the second contingent of released prisoners reached New York. Arrangements have been made for a demonstration on a large scale in the city in honour of the prisoners.

In the House of Representatives, on Monday, a resolution offered by General Butler was passed by 172 to 21, that the Congress of the United States, in the name and on behalf of the people thereof, do give O'Donovan Rossa and the Irish exiles and patriots a cordial welcome to the capital and the country.

The capitulation of Paris has caused great rejoicings among the Germans in the United States.

Eighty lives have been lost by the explosion of the steamer Arthur on the Mississippi, on Saturday last.

INDIA.

The Loossae tribes have invaded Cachar, and the inroad is more serious than was at first supposed. There has been considerable loss of life, but chiefly among the raiders, who were stoutly met by the planters and coolies. There are three ways by which Cachar can be invaded from the south; at each point there was a guard, but too weak to resist this inroad.

Troops under the chief commandant on the Eastern frontier were promptly ordered up, and others are ready, if they should be needed, for Chittagong.

HEARTS OF OAK BENEFIT SOCIETY.—The official auditor's report on the financial operations of this society for the year 1870 has just appeared, and it seems to indicate that the past year has been most successful. The society began the year with 18,369 members, and finished it with 21,450. During the year no less than 4307 new members were admitted. The income for the year was £10,751 8s. 0d., against £24,764 7s. 3d. in 1869. The amount received was appropriated as follows:—£31,184 3s. 4d. was paid for sickness, funerals, and other benefits; £850 7s. 10d. was spent in postage, reports, &c.; £1957 18s. 11d. was the cost of management; and the remainder, or £6759 2s. 11d., was added to the reserve fund, which now amounts to upwards of £67,000. The cost of management was only £116s. per cent upon the gross income, and it was entirely covered by the fines; thus leaving the whole of the ordinary contributions available for the satisfaction of claims and for the augmentation of the reserve fund.

THE WAR.

THE CAPITULATION OF PARIS.

The negotiations for the surrender of Paris were concluded last Saturday evening, when a capitulation, as well as an armistice of three weeks on land and at sea, was signed by Count Bismarck and M. Jules Favre. The terms of the surrender are of an entirely special character. In the first instance, the detached forts around Paris, forming the outer circle of defence, are handed over to the Germans, to be garrisoned by their troops; and to this provision effect was given on Sunday morning. The transfer of the forts places Paris entirely in the power of the German army. Not only does it give the latter a perfect series of impregnable positions, but it diminishes the diameter of the circle of investment by from six to four miles; and this, apart from the superior strength of the forts, would make the maintenance of the investment much easier. Fort de Romainville is less than a mile and a half from the walls of Paris, and, together with Fort d'Aubervilliers, commands those portions of the city which are inhabited by the most turbulent portion of the population.

The following are the principal conditions of the capitulation and armistice:—The armistice is to begin in Paris at once, and in the departments in three days, and is to expire on Feb. 19, at noon. The line of demarcation which has been settled cuts through the departments of Calvados and Orne, leaving the departments of Sarthe, Indre-et-Loire, Loir-et-Cher, Loiret, Yonne, and the country which lies north-east, besides the Pas de Calais and Nord, in German occupation. A decision as to the armistice relative to the Côte d'Or, Doubs, Jura, and Belfort, is reserved. Up to that time the military operations in that part of France, including the siege of Belfort, will be continued. Sea forces are to be included in the armistice, the meridian of Dunkirk to form the line of demarcation during the interval between the conclusion of the armistice and the recommencement of hostilities. The prisoners and prizes made shall be restored. Elections for an assembly to decide upon war or peace shall be held, Bordeaux being fixed upon as the place of meeting. All the forts around Paris are to surrender at once. The enceinte is to be disarmed. The Line, Marines, and Mobile Guards are prisoners of war, except 12,000 for maintaining public order. The prisoners of war shall remain during the armistice within the walls of the capital, after they have laid down their arms. The National Guards and gendarmes are to keep their arms for the preservation of order, and all corps of Frances-Tireurs are to be disbanded. The Germans shall, as much as lies in their power, facilitate the task of the French Commissariat for revictualling Paris. In order to leave Paris the permission of the French authorities must necessarily be accompanied by the German visa. The city of Paris is to pay a contribution of 200,000,000f. within a fortnight. Public property is not to be removed during the armistice. All German prisoners of war shall immediately be exchanged against a proportionate number of French prisoners; also captains of vessels and others, as well as civilian prisoners on both sides.

It has transpired that when M. Jules Favre approached Count Bismarck for the purpose of negotiating for the cessation of hostilities against Paris, the German statesman declined to consider the case of Paris as separate from that of France, and hence the capitulation became coupled with the armistice as its condition. M. Bismarck's repeated declarations did not permit him to treat the Government of National Defence as a power competent to make treaties; but for the purposes of an armistice it was sufficient to acknowledge it as the power disposing of the military forces of France, and as instrumentally capable of bringing about the meeting of a "National Assembly." The latter appears to be the correct appellation of the representative body which is convoked. The Versailles telegram describes it as "an Assembly to decide upon war or peace." Further than this the armistice-convention does not provide; but, of course, if the Assembly, after having discharged its primary functions, should assume, as it probably will, constituent powers, and become the real governing body of France, that is a matter over which the Germans have no control.

Mr. Odo Russell telegraphs that the letter-post has been re-established between Paris and Versailles. Havre and Dieppe will be the ports of communication for England. Persons are allowed to leave Paris; but General von Blumenthal and the military authorities have been requested by the French not to give passes to enter. The French authorities do not wish foreigners to enter Paris before the revictualling can be effected, and no exceptions are made. M. Jules Favre has telegraphed to Havre:—

"It is urgently necessary that Paris should be revictualled. Repair your railway immediately; and, as soon as it is clear, send all disposable provisions and fuel, by way of Rouen and Amiens, immediately."

RUMOURED CONDITIONS OF PEACE.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs that the conditions of peace, as announced by Count Bismarck to M. Favre, include, besides the cession of Alsace and Lorraine, with Belfort and Metz, the payment of a pecuniary indemnity of ten milliards of francs, the cession of Pondicherry, in the East Indies, and the transfer of twenty first-class men-of-war. A milliard is a thousand millions; ten milliards of francs therefore represent £400,000,000 at the popular exchange of 25f. for a pound. Pondicherry, on the Coromandel coast, is the capital of the French settlements in India, the total population of which is less than 230,000. The number of first-class men-of-war to be demanded is precisely that of the iron-clad *vaisseaux* and frigates of the French navy, leaving nothing but corvettes, coastguard ships, and floating batteries. That demands so extreme as these should be discussed at Berlin is intelligible; but from Versailles we hear that the main point insisted on is the cession of territory, and that, when that has been satisfactorily disposed of, Count Bismarck will not raise insurmountable difficulties on other points.

Letters from Versailles, indeed, state that Count Bismarck drew for M. Jules Favre's information a rough sketch of the territorial cession required. It includes Thionville and Metz, but not Nancy or Lunéville, and, after thus trending eastward, turns off a little again to the west, and includes Belfort. Alsace will be incorporated bodily. A good deal of Lorraine will be spared, but a bit of the Jura will be taken.

BOURBAKI'S ARMY.

It is officially announced that General Bourbaki's army has retreated into Switzerland. Three thousand men have already crossed the frontier at Ste. Croix, and it was thought probable that the total would amount to 80,000. Arrangements were being made by the Swiss authorities for the distribution of these men through the different cantons, according to the ratio of the population.

General Bourbaki, having been wounded (by his own hand, it is reported) had ceased to command the army, and had been replaced by General Clinchamp.

The German Emperor has thanked Von Werder for his glorious victories against Bourbaki, and has awarded him the great cross of the Red Eagle.

MISCELLANEOUS WAR NEWS.

It is reported that General Ducrot has poisoned himself; and a Versailles telegram supplies the explanation by saying that the General, if taken, would be shot, on the plea that he had broken his parole.

On the Lower Loire the French have made a feeble attempt to gain ground, having on the 28th advanced towards Blois. On observing this movement the Prussian commandant burnt the bridge, and the next day the French retreated in a southerly direction.

Before Belfort the carrying on of regular approaches against the citadel has been found practically impossible, on account of the rocky and undulating surface over which they would have to run. The former plan of attack contemplated has therefore been abandoned, and a separate set of scattered batteries been erected,

armed with heavy guns, as far as possible converging on the main points of defence, and keeping up an almost continuous vertical and ricochet fire, so as to demolish the interior defences, and, by driving the garrison constantly into their casemates, impede any efforts at counter-intrenchments. These batteries were pushed as far forward as possible, and connected by artificial means with shelter in the rear. The labour thus expended is described as having been enormous.

A letter from Dijon gives an account of the fighting round that town on the 21st, 22nd, and 23rd ult. From this it appears that the French gained a very slight advantage on the 21st; that during the night the Prussians surprised some positions, which were recaptured by the French the following morning; and that on the 23rd the enemy, who had changed the direction of his attack from north-east to north, was completely routed. The Germans on the first day were estimated at from 10,000 to 15,000 men, with about twenty-five guns. They are supposed to have received reinforcements on the second day. Garibaldi's army numbered from 35,000 to 40,000 men, a large proportion being composed of Mobiles, with many guns. Only, however, about 15,000 or 20,000 men were engaged. The loss of the French in killed and wounded during the three days' fighting is estimated at 1500 men, that of the Prussians at 6000 men. The French seem to have displayed the utmost intrepidity, even the Mobilis charging with the bayonet like old soldiers.

MR. BRIGHT AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.

MR. GEORGE DIXON and Mr. R. H. Muntz, two of the members for Birmingham, addressed their constituents on Monday evening—the Mayor in the chair. The following letter from Mr. Bright was read:—

Rochdale, Jan. 18, 1871.

My dear Mr. Wright,—I thank you for your kind letter, and for the notice of the meeting and the invitation to it. I regret very much that I cannot yet have the pleasure of visiting Birmingham and of being present at your annual meeting. It is a great disappointment to me not to be able to meet my constituents as usual before the opening of the Session; but I am still so far from my ordinary state of health that I dare not attempt anything that would involve me in labour and excitement. I can only trust to the kindness of my friends in Birmingham for that forbearance upon which I often feel that I have already trespassed too far. I have worked hard in public and Parliamentary life for twenty-seven years, with one interval of rest rendered necessary by illness, and now am forced from a like cause to indulge in another period of cessation from labour. If my constituents feel that their interests suffer from my absence from Parliament, and that I am unduly taxing their patience, I shall most readily resign the trust they have committed to me for twelve years past. It, in their kindness and forbearance, they still wish me to retain the honourable position of one of their representatives, I shall retain it in the hope of being able again to serve them with earnestness and fidelity when my health shall have been restored. I have good reason for believing that a few months more of rest will enable me to return to work without danger or inconvenience. I do not enter upon any public question. I hope it is not needless for me to assure the electors of Birmingham that I have in no sense abandoned the principles upon which my public course has been based. I thank you and the gentlemen of the committee of the Liberal Association for their kind sympathy, and am, very sincerely yours,

JOHN BRIGHT.
John S. Wright, Esq.

It was moved by Mr. J. Wright and seconded by Mr. Lakin:—

"That this meeting desires to assure Mr. Bright of the continued confidence and affection of his constituents, and of their gratitude for his long-continued and eminent services to them and to the whole country. The meeting hears with joy of the probability of the speedy recovery of Mr. Bright from the illness which has unhappily suspended his labours for the public good; but, whilst anxious that his experience and wisdom should again be actively devoted to the service of the State, earnestly desires that he will take such rest from work as may be necessary to secure the thorough re-establishment of his health, and hopes he may long be spared to witness the triumph of the great principles which he has with such rare ability striven to promote."

A resolution was afterwards passed declaring Messrs. Dixon and Muntz worthy of the continued confidence of their constituents, and thanking them for their services in Parliament.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—In addition to the Postmaster-General, the following newly-elected members of the House of Commons will be entitled to take their seats on Feb. 9:—The Attorney-General for Plymouth, on his re-election, after having been appointed Recorder of Bristol; Mr. Davison, for Durham, on his appointment as Judge-Advocate-General; Sir Dominic Corrigan, for the city of Dublin, in succession to Sir Arthur Guinness, unseated; Mr. Leo Steere, for West Surrey, in the room of Mr. Briscoe, deceased; Mr. Douglas Straight, for Shrewsbury, in the place of Mr. Clement, deceased; Sir R. Baggallay, for Mid-Surrey, in the room of the Hon. W. Brodrick, who has succeeded to the Peerage as Viscount Midleton; Col. Neil Learmonth, for Colchester, in consequence of the death of Mr. Gurdon-Rebow; Mr. Cavendish Clifford, for Newport, Isle of Wight, in succession to Mr. C. Wykeham Martin, deceased; Mr. John Martyn, for the county of Meath, in the room of Mr. Corbally, deceased; and Viscount Newry, for Newry, in the place of Mr. Kirk, deceased. Seats in the House of Commons are now vacant for Norwich, Westmorland, and West Norfolk—the first through the decision of an election Judge, and the others through the former members having been called to the Peerage.

THE GERMAN IMPERIAL POLICY.—The German Correspondent of last Saturday promises that the modern German Emperor will not attempt to tread in the footsteps of his holy Roman predecessors. It says:—

"Two of the guiding principles of their policy have become antiquated in the course of time, and the House of Hohenzollern will not tempt the fate which overthrew earlier dynasties by endeavouring to uphold religious orthodoxy by temporal means, or by aiming at the establishment of a European authority. Napoleon I., when at the height of his power, proudly assumed the title of Emperor, in order to forge, as it were, the sanction of antiquity for the schemes of his lawless ambition. The name and the vague pretensions which it cloaked flattered the vanity of the French. They gladly followed the Imperial eagles through danger, and at last to destruction. Even after the Emperor had been dethroned and exiled they cherished the dreams of the Empire, and bought a restoration of the title in the weaker person of the nephew, at the price of all their liberties. The fall of Napoleon III. has, it may be hoped, dispelled for ever the dream of a universal monarchy. Such ideas as these are averse to the whole character of the German people. Their interests and their inclinations alike demand a pacific policy; and, conscious of the power they possess, they are in a position at once to refrain from vexatious interference with the affairs of their neighbours, and to repulse any encroachments on their own rights. The very means by which the Empire has been re-established are a guarantee for the peaceful character of its future policy. King William has not usurped the proud title which he bears. It has been conferred upon him by the unanimous vote of the Princes and the Free Cities of Germany, and he has accepted it in the spirit which prompted the offer. Whatever the future may bring, we may be sure of this, that the House of Hohenzollern will be true to its high mission of peacefully reconstructing Germany on a firm and durable basis, and that the Imperial title will gain a new lustre from being associated with their name."

THE NEW POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM MONSELL, the new Postmaster-General, was re-elected for the county of Limerick, last Saturday, without opposition. In returning thanks he referred to the policy of Mr. Gladstone's Government during the past two years as an indication of the zeal and the earnestness which would characterise the treatment of the Irish education question when it was dealt with by the Cabinet. The right hon. gentleman warned the people not to be led away by a description of pseudo-patriotism which found much favour in the eyes of a certain class of Irish folk.

Mr. Monsell is the eldest son of the late William Monsell, Esq., of Tervoe, in the county of Limerick, by Olivia, daughter of Sir John Allen Johnson Walsh, second Baronet. He was born on Sept. 21, 1812, and was educated at Winchester School, and at Oriel College, Oxford. Mr. Monsell has been twice married—first, in 1836, to Lady Anna Maria Charlotte (who died in 1855), only daughter of the second Earl of Dunraven; and, secondly, in 1857, to Berthe, third daughter of the Comte de Montigny Boutainvilliers. He has two

from December, 1852, till the abolition of the office in 1857, President of the Board of Health from February till September, 1857, and Vice-President of the Board of Trade in 1866. He was appointed Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies on the formation of Mr. Gladstone's Government, in December, 1868, and is well known as the early advocate of "reproductive employment" during the Irish famine of 1846-7. He promoted the "Catholic Oath Bill," and introduced and carried the "Catholic Marriage Act." Mr. Monsell has been consistently opposed to all religious restrictions, and in favour of an equitable adjustment of the relations between landlord and tenant in Ireland; and of course vigorously supported Mr. Gladstone's Irish Church Bill in 1869 and his land bill of 1870. He was first elected for the county of Limerick in 1847, and has been several times returned by the same constituency since.

MR. C. O. TREVELYAN ON ARMY REFORM.

In a second letter on this subject, Mr. G. O. Trevelyan says:—

"There is just at present some danger lest we should be in too great a hurry to surrender our personal liberties. We read a good deal about schemes of compulsory service in the Line or the Militia, with an exemption for those who are wealthy enough to be enabled to make themselves efficient volunteers. The practical operation of this device would be to throw discredit upon the militia as a refuge for the destitute and to fill the volunteer force with unwilling recruits, who had joined in order to escape the burden which would fall exclusively upon their poorer countrymen. Before a measure so totally opposed to English notions of equality becomes law there would be much fewer able-bodied men in the country, and those who remained would be soldiers too practised to need any more drilling."

"The ballot without exemption, except for certain callings of a peculiar nature, deserves far more serious consideration. Before, however, we take so very grave a step it must be seen what foundation there is for the conviction which is entertained by some of our best officers, whether of the regular Army or of the Militia, that (under such terms of service as I have described in my last letter) good pay, a handsome retaining fee, and, if necessary, a bounty, would not fail to draw into our ranks plenty of fine young fellows. The attractions of Indian service, as is established in the reports of our two great Recruiting Commissions, will continue to fill the ranks of the foreign army. And when a lad is certain that, instead of being sent for an indefinite period to a distant and unhealthy station, he will serve his time in his county town among his village companions, and after the lapse of a few months will return to his business and his sweetheart, we shall have no insurmountable difficulty in getting recruits for our home force. If we experience such difficulty, we might have recourse to the very original and ingenious scheme propounded by Lord Derby, of making the locality responsible for a certain number of recruits under penalty of a payment in money."

"We have hitherto tried the system of voluntary enlistment under circumstances the most unfavourable possible. It is only during the last few years that we have begun to make the position of the common soldier tolerable. When we have discharged the irreclaimably bad characters who now render our service uncomfortable and discreditable in the eyes of decent men—when we hold out to our recruits a reasonable prospect of promotion in their own career, and offer to their ambition the tens of thousands of humbler civil appointments which at present are used as an indirect means of influencing our constituencies—we shall then have given a fair chance in a new field to our old English way of taking for military service those only who are inclined to it by circumstances and temperament, and of leaving to the quiet pursuit of their occupations those who prefer paying to fighting. We shall be the most happily situated of all European populations; for,



THE RIGHT HON. W. MONSELL, POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

while our citizens will not against their will be made into soldiers, our soldiers will not cease to be citizens.

"With regard to Lord Russell's remarks on army administration, it is a question whether the status and title of Commander-in-Chief should be attached to the officer charged, under the War Minister, with the promotion and discipline of our Army. What the State wants is the best administrator of the day, whatever may be his army rank. As long as we have a Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief taking precedence of every officer in the Army we must select either a person of exalted rank, or, if such exists, a great captain of classical reputation in the field. Now, a classical reputation, so far from pointing out its possessor as a vigorous administrator, generally implies that he is past his work. The great prizes of the Army ought to be the commands at home and abroad; while the officer who does the work of the bureaux in London should be called Adjutant-General, or Chief of the Staff, or Military Secretary, or some such modest title. The nation cannot always hope, as now, to have at hand an officer equal to the duties of the Command-in-Chief, and of standing and consideration such that he could be nominated to the post without exciting the universal jealousy of his profession.

"The best administrative system is that under which the War Minister will be served and advised in purely military matters by an officer such as I have described above; in estimates and accounts, by a financial secretary; in the business of supply, by a controller; and in the provision and distribution of warlike stores, by the Surveyor of Ordnance. The idea of a board is earnestly to be deprecated, and can hardly be introduced by a

Government under whose auspices the members of the Board of Admiralty have virtually been converted into Under-Secretaries, responsible to the First Lord for the work of their own departments. It would be a national calamity if the names of Lawrence and Mansfield were to be used to screen others less trusted by the country. Such reputations are too precious to be spent in tiding over the present crisis any interests or institutions whatsoever.

"Lord Russell thinks that purchase should go; all men of sense think so now; all men who united foresight to military knowledge thought so in the year 1857. In that year two gentlemen, Mr. Bird and Mr. Denham Robinson, were appointed by the War Office to report upon the following question: 'What would be the probable cost of compensating officers now in the service who have purchased commissions, and who may wish to retire from the service?' They reported that the probable cost would be £2,355,000, basing their calculation on the return of the amount which, on May 1, 1856, each officer had actually paid for his commission according to the regulation. That amount in 1856 was £4,740,000. In 1870 it was computed by a member of the leading firm of army agents at £7,668,000. A simple rule of three sum will therefore enable us to ascertain that, according to War Office computation, the compensation for the regulation price of commissions would now amount to pretty near £3,810,000. The extra regulation prices paid at present stand at about five elevenths of the regulation prices; so that, according to the method of calculation adopted by the War Office, the total expense of abolishing purchase would be as near as possible five millions and a half. Fourteen years ago the cost would have been decidedly under three millions and a half; and if there had been a man in power with the opinions of Lord Clyde, Sir De Lacy Evans, or Sir William Mansfield, it would have been abolished then and there. But Horse Guard influences declared for the maintenance of a system which wise soldiers even then knew to be ultimately untenable, and have ever since been complacently watching its extension, whether in a legal or an illegal direction. The extra two millions which it will now take to extinguish purchase form part of the price which we pay for the honour of having the Horse Guards.

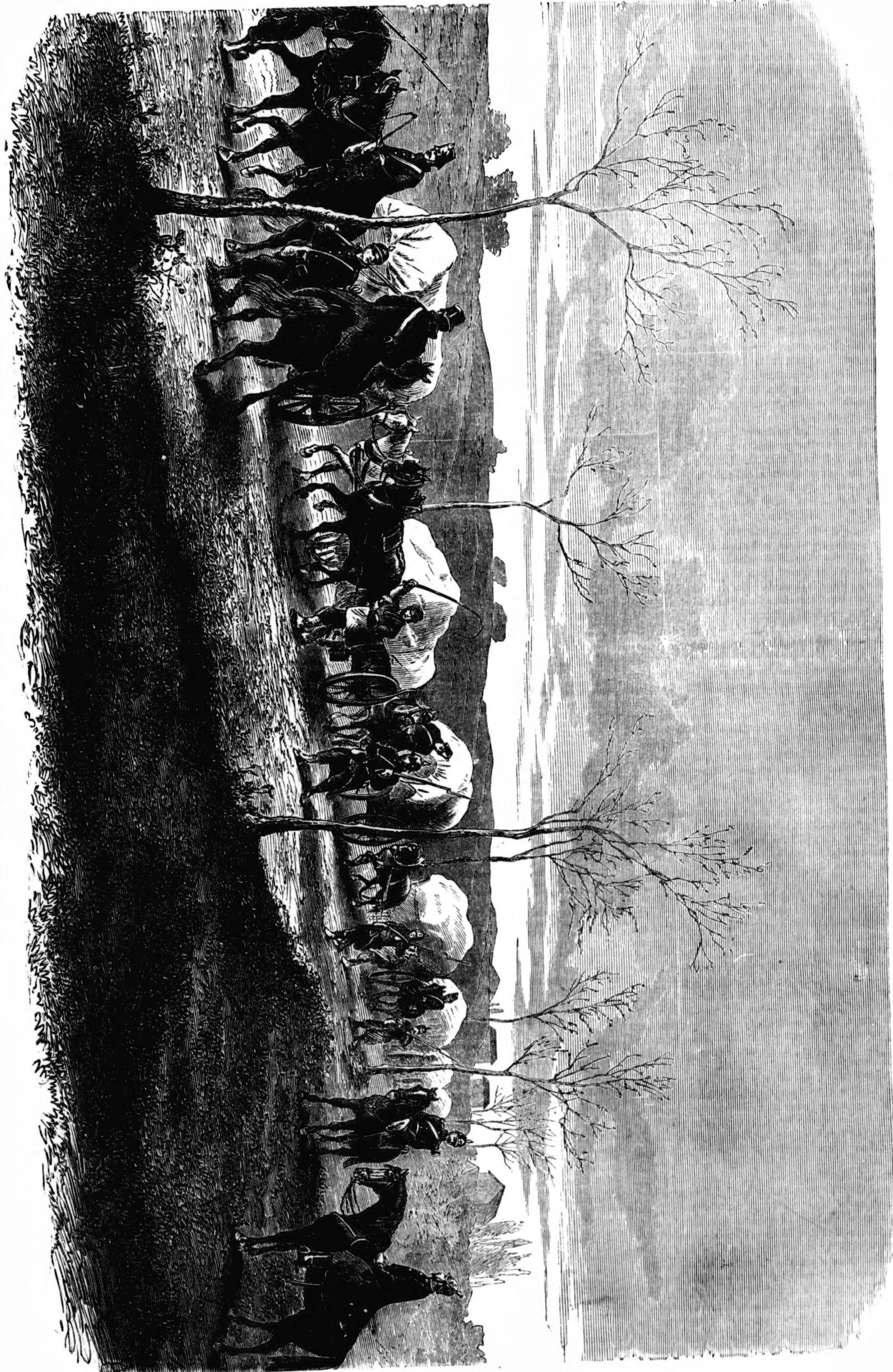
"Lord Russell speaks in becoming terms of Mr. Cardwell. It must be allowed that the reform and reorganisation of our Army is a business which cannot be undertaken except under the favouring condition of the strongest national excitement. Until the last few months, the present Secretary of State for War would not have had behind him the popular force which will now enable him to bear down opposition, so long as his hand is armed with justice, energy, and decision. There is much to be said for not attempting to reform such a system as ours in parts. Now, for the first time, Mr. Cardwell has the opportunity of attacking it as a whole."

The *Daily News* understands that Mr. Trevelyan intends, as early as possible in the Session, to bring forward two resolutions in the House of Commons—one declaring that the system of purchasing commissions in the Army should be abolished, and the other that the existing arrangements at the Horse Guards are unsatisfactory and stand in need of reform. These resolutions will be seconded by Mr. W. E. Price, the member for Tewkesbury, whose experience as an officer in a Line regiment, and afterwards as commander of companies in the Militia and volunteers, has made him familiar with the various branches of the service. It will probably be deemed respectful and expedient, the *News* says, to wait until the Government scheme is produced before proposing any other plan; but "the supporters of Army reform in the House of Commons will strenuously protest in Parliament, and, if necessary, by an organised movement throughout the country, against the nation being called upon to incur any additional burdens until the command of the Army is taken out of the hands in which it at present lies."



A GERMAN REQUISITION PARTY AT MONTLIGNAN, NEAR PARIS.—(SEE PAGE 71.)

A GERMAN PROVISION COLUMN ON THE MARCH IN FRANCHE COMTE.—(SEE PAGE 74.)



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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1871.

HAMPSTEAD-HEATH.

This is rather a chilly title when written, as now, in the dead of winter; and we are not about to propose any kind of donkey-riding, or gipsying on the heath, or a public meeting there, or even a dinner at Jack Straw's Castle or The Spaniards. Our object is simply to congratulate Londoners—especially those in the north and the City proper (though the Metropolitan Railway makes access easy and cheap from almost anywhere)—upon the fact that the heath is at last secured to them by an arrangement between the Metropolitan Board of Works and the lord of the manor. One wishes this had been effected long ago, for the heath has already suffered much; but there is still plenty to preserve and to watch over, and the work done is a good work. But we devoutly trust that those who have carried it up to the present point will not yet cease their vigilance. It is well that the heath should be preserved from the encroachments of the bricklayer; but we must now see that it does not get its hair cut and combed for it—to vary the phraseology rather abruptly. Wash it, and keep it washed, by all means; that is to say, guard it from all nuisance-mongers and sordid squatters; but do not stick it into stays and "tittivate it up." In other words, let the heath continue a heath. Let us not have forced upon us any—the remotest—sense of trimness or inclosure. No garden-chairs, with beadles to take pence for them; no pond-fowl, artificially introduced. In a word, no parkiness.

Our first thanks in this matter are due to the immediate agitators. But some are also claimed by persons whose names may not at once strike the reader. Shakespeare is one, Wordsworth another, and Ruskin a third. If it had not been for Rosalind, and Celia, and Jacques; if it had not been for "Lucy" and "Nutting;" if it had not been for Mr. Ruskin's writings; if it had not been for the Wordsworth and Ruskin school, including the Howitts and their kith and kin; if it had not been for Dr. Southwood Smith, and a great many more, we should not now feel secure in the possession of Wimbledon-common, Clapham-common, Hampstead-heath, and Epping Forest. Nor should we have had the minor parks—Victoria, Kennington, Finsbury, and Southwark. Nor should we have had such pleasant spectacles as that to be seen in Bishopsgate-street, where the ground of a disused graveyard has been turned into an open summer garden, where the grass is bright and the flowers are gay, with a pool in which wildfowl disport themselves to the trickling of a fountain.

There is nothing far-fetched in connecting these things with that modern revival of the sentiment for nature for which we are indebted to Wordsworth and his compatriots. From the time at which he uttered his mighty protests against the sordid business-worship of the times, exclaiming, "Great God! I'd rather be a pagan suckled in a creed outworn" than be dead to natural beauty; and declaring that "One impulse from a vernal wood will teach us more of man, of moral evil, and of good, than"—we are almost afraid to conclude the verse, it is so strongly worded; from that time down to the present, when Mr. Ruskin avows his desire to pull up half or more than half the railways (most wild and illogical desire!) because they ugly the face of the earth and do other mischief, the tendency to turn to nature for refreshment has been steadily gaining power and diffusion. First of all, a few lonely disciples of the Rydal Mount school feel the fresh impulse. The few increase by degrees to thousands. Then the Corn-Law Rhymer takes up the parable. A bright green thread meanders through our journalism. Creswick, Dickens, Jerrold, Birket Foster, and others, each in his own way, help to add fibre to fibre, till at last all literature, art, and public sentiment have an odour of Arden in them. Then the Southwood Smiths and other sanitarians take up the wondrous tale, and daily, to the listening Earth, show how much grass and trees are worth. Nor is this all. Something besides the sentiment of nature has had a large share in the movement for keeping the town refreshed with glimpses of *out-of-town*. We mean, the sentiment of respect for the poor, care for their pleasures, and desire for their culture. For this, too, we are mainly indebted to Wordsworth. At least, it is to him we owe that share of the sentiment which has commanded the adhesion of the most serious and tender minds. To Byron, too, we must not forget we owe much in this particular. His feeling for nature was not as fresh and simple as Wordsworth's; but he constantly pleaded not only for the personal independence of

the poor, but for the inviolability of their pleasures. That poets and others only wrote what ran parallel with deep-flowing currents of popular feeling at the time is certain; but that does not lessen their merit—say, rather, it is their merit. Let us remember them with "thanks and Amen!" And well may we find a little modest refreshment in turning aside from the cruelties of the world's louder life just now to these pleasant by-paths! No apology should be required for doing that; and, if any at all is needed, it must be because we have not specifically referred to the munificent things which have been done in the provinces by great public benefactors in the way of freshening up the crowded towns by open parks. All honour to them, every one; and may their memory be green as long as the trees they have caused to be planted for the solace of the eye and the heart!

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE COURT will, it is understood, leave Osborne on Tuesday, Feb. 7, and return to Windsor Castle. Her Majesty will, it is expected, proceed from Windsor to open Parliament, and, according to the most recent arrangements, it is probable that the Queen, after the ceremony, will pay a visit to Claremont House for a few days previous to returning to Windsor.

THE QUEEN has been pleased to appoint James Sant, Esq., R.A., to be Principal Painter in Ordinary to her Majesty, in the room of Sir George Hayter, deceased.

PRINCE ARTHUR, on Tuesday, returned to his military duties as a Lieutenant in the Rifle Brigade, after rather more than a month's absence.

PRINCE ACHILLE MURAT was at Brussels on the 15th, and had several consultations with M. Granier de Cassagnac, after which he set out for Wilhelmshöhe.

MR. GLADSTONE, as Premier, has issued cards for a full-dress Parliamentary dinner to the Speaker and his coadjutors of the Government on Feb. 8, the eve of the meeting of Parliament.

MR. CHILDERS has gone for a short cruise in the Black Eagle, for the restoration of his health, which is rapidly improving. Mr. Childers's trip will not extend beyond a short distance, within reach of telegraph and post.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON has admitted Miss C. Hart to the office of deaconess, and has appointed her visitor in the district parish of St. Gabriel, Pimlico.

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE COCKBURN has been suffering from an attack of bronchitis, but is now somewhat better.

CANON MELVILLE is suffering from ill-health, and will not be able to take the duties of Canon in Residence during the present month.

THE IRISH PRIMATE (Beresford), the Archbishop of Dublin (Trench), and the Bishops of Derry (Alexander) and Down (Knox), have determined to commute their ecclesiastical incomes, as an example to their clergy and an evidence of confidence in the new Church Body and its financial operations. The rest of the Protestant Bishops will probably do likewise.

THE LORDS' JUSTICES IN CHANCERY, on Monday, annulled the adjudication of bankruptcy against Sir Colman O'Loghlen, M.P., on the ground that, as a resident in Ireland, he was not subject to the operation of the English law of bankruptcy.

THE NEXT EXAMINATION of candidates for admission to the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, will commence on Monday, June 5.

THE LEGISLATURE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA has accepted the proposal of a confederation with the Dominion.

A LARGE COTTON-FACTORY, at Bury, Lancashire, was burned down on Wednesday, five persons perishing in the flames. The property destroyed is valued at £60,000.

THE MASTER COTTON-SPINNERS of Bradford have agreed to an application for an advance of 5 per cent in wages, to take effect from March 2.

THE SENIOR WRANGLER at Cambridge this year, Mr. John Hopkinson, is a Nonconformist, his father being a Deacon of an Independent church in Manchester.

OF THE FRENCH PRISONERS IN BELGIUM more than 700 who were without any instruction have been taught to read, write, and cipher since their internment.

THE REV. THOMAS BINNEY preached his farewell sermon, on Sunday night, at the King's Weigh-House Chapel, on retiring from his ministry there of some forty years. The chapel was crowded to overflowing, and a large number of persons were unable to obtain admittance. Mr. Binney preached to young men from the text "Be not deceived, God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

MR. GLADSTONE, in a letter acknowledging the receipt of a memorial from the Bristol Chamber of Commerce in favour of a settlement of the Alabama claims, writes:—"I beg to assure you that for years past the Government has attended to every allowable proceeding with a view to a settlement of these claims. We continue to be in the same disposition, for we cordially agree in the opinion that the long unsettled state of the controversy is not for the advantage or honour of either country."

SAMUEL VINE, the steward of H.M.S. Boscawen, who was last week tried by court martial for alleged frauds upon the Admiralty, was last Saturday acquitted of the charge. Other trials on similar charges are in progress.

THE SMALLPOX AND FEVER HOSPITALS AT STOCKWELL were, on Monday, inspected by the Metropolitan Asylums Board. In the former the nurses and attendants undergo vaccination before entering upon their duties.

TERESITA CANZIO, the only daughter of Garibaldi, is dead. She was the daughter of his first wife, the Spanish Creole, Anita, and twin sister of Ricciotti, his youngest son. She is said to have been the favourite child of the General, and an amiable and kind-hearted woman.

THE TOTAL RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER from April 1 to Jan. 28 were £52,241,257, as compared with £57,784,633, in the corresponding period of last year. The expenditure has been £57,624,180. The balance in the Bank of England on Saturday last was £873,167.

A DEPUTATION OF IRISH NATIONAL SCHOOLMASTERS waited upon Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Fortescue, on Tuesday, and pointed out some defects in their social status which they considered demanded a remedy. Mr. Gladstone promised that the Government would give their best attention to the matter.

MR. RALPH HARRISON, the manager of the Birmingham *Daily Gazette*, was attacked, last Saturday night, when near his own residence, by two men, one of whom gave him the usual "garrotters' hug," and robbed him of £2 19s. in money, a gold watch, and valuable papers. Mr. Harrison is at present confined to his bed from the effects of the injuries he received.

THE METROPOLITAN VOLUNTEER COMMANDING OFFICERS, at a meeting on Tuesday, resolved that the volunteer review be held on Easter Monday, as usual. The review will take place at Brighton, provided satisfactory arrangements be made with the local and railway authorities.

A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MANSION-HOUSE FRENCH RELIEF FUND was held on Tuesday. Mr. George Moore and Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart-Wortley were appointed to go to Paris and superintend the distribution of the stores sent out by this organisation. Another shipment of food to the value of £5000 was ordered to be made.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MANCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, at the annual meeting, on Monday, alluded to the improvement in the trade of the district, and stated that the working classes were never better employed nor had higher wages than they now received.

A FRENCHMAN was lately seen unmercifully thrashing a donkey which manifested a distaste to put its weight into the collar and help to drag a heavy load up-hill. A companion whom the man had interposed in front of the ass, to the great wrath of the other. "Why shouldn't I flag the brute?" he cried, "he's a regular Bismarck!"

THE LABOUR REPRESENTATION LEAGUE has unanimously passed a resolution condemning the offensive references which have been made to the marriage of Princess Louise, and protesting against "patry and vexations attempts to excite unworthy prejudices in a matter which, in its liberal and exceptional character, commends itself to the hearty approval of the nation."

COLONEL ELPHINSTONE, the *Times'* correspondent at the head-quarters of General Chanzy, has been released by the Germans, after being imprisoned *au secret* as a spy in the common gaol of Le Mans, expecting every hour to be led out to execution. It is fortunate for him that the Prussians arrived in time and demanded the list of prisoners. He was allowed neither fire nor bedding, though the weather was bitterly cold. For two or three days after his release he suffered severely from the effects of his imprisonment, but is now restored to health, and awaits the decision of the Prussian authorities, to whom he has reported himself. He is quite free to go where he will within the lines.

THE LOUNGER.

HER MAJESTY will open Parliament on Thursday, the 9th. Impatient editors have complained that, whereas Parliament ought to have met earlier than usual this year, it will meet *much* later. It will not meet much later than usual. Last year it assembled on the 8th. It generally meets in the first or the second week in February. Nor does there seem to be any real reason why it should assemble this year earlier than usual. Aforesaid impatient editors have urged that in the present critical state of foreign affairs Parliament ought to have been summoned early that it might in case of urgency advise the Crown. No Minister, past, present, or expectant, would assent to such a doctrine. In a multitude of councillors there is wisdom, says the proverb; but surely the multitude may be too large. Six hundred and fifty-eight councillors, each with a different head on his shoulders, and many of the heads notoriously not remarkably wise, would, in a serious, weighty emergency, requiring instant decision, make by their confused counsels promptitude difficult. The constitutional theory is the best. By the Constitution the Sovereign alone represents the nation abroad. The Sovereign alone has a right to declare war and conclude peace, and make treaties with foreign Powers. By the Sovereign now, of course, is meant her Majesty's Ministers, responsible for their acts to Parliament, which, though it has no right to advise the Crown on such subjects, can criticise and condemn the Ministers' decisions; nay, in case of declaration of war, Parliament can stop hostilities by refusing the money necessary to carry them on. In short, the Executive is still separate and distinct from the Legislature. The legislative body, though, can in many ways control the Executive. This power it certainly ought to have; but it should exercise such power with moderation, and not attempt to usurp the powers of the Executive, which it is, from its nature, incapable of exercising. "What, then," some Radical member may ask, "are we to allow the Government to declare war without our consent?" To which question this answer may be given: As Parliament has the power in reality, though not in theory, to dismiss a Government, and also the power of withholding the sinews of war, it is very unlikely that Ministers will involve the nation in war unless they know that Parliament will sanction it. But our impatient editors allege another reason why Parliament ought to be summoned earlier. The Army urgently needs reform, they say; and, in truth, so it does. But do these impatient editors imagine that even now Mr. Cardwell has any such reform as they desire ready to be proposed to Parliament? If they do, they are very sanguine people.

The newspapers tell us that the First Lord of the Admiralty is going abroad; and I believe this is true. He is going on a cruise in the Mediterranean in the Admiralty yacht Black Eagle; and, if the usual course be taken in the House, he will probably not be back in time to move the Navy Estimates. Generally, the House gets into Committee upon the Navy Estimates before March 1. If Mr. Childers should be absent, Mr. Baxter, the Secretary to the Admiralty, will have to move and defend the votes, and to do battle with all who may—as many will—attack the Admiralty administration. This will, in some cases, be an unpleasant task. In the case of the loss of the Captain, the task will be anything but pleasant. No very fierce battle, though, upon that subject is expected. You see, it cannot be made a party question; for, as I showed some weeks ago, both parties are responsible for the building of that ill-fated ship. But, anyhow, on this or any other subject Mr. Baxter, we may be sure, will be up to his work.

At every gathering of electors to hear their representatives give accounts of their stewardship the question is asked, "Will you vote for giving a dower to Princess Louise?" This is passing strange, but not unaccountable. *Parvum parva decent*—Small matters suit small minds. This is often illustrated in the House of Commons. Large sums are voted with much less discussion than small sums are. A vote of a million will pass almost *sub silentio*, whilst a vote of a few thousands will call up, one after another, a score of fervid economists. The million is something too big for small men to understand; but the smallest mind can comprehend such matters as the furnishing of offices or the supply of gas to the Houses of Parliament, on which small business we had a somewhat angry debate last year; and I have noticed that members of Parliament argue very much as these artisans do. "Why should we give dowers to Princesses whilst so many people are unable to get bread?" is a mode of reasoning which is not unfrequently adopted in the House of Commons; but whilst it calls forth applause at these gatherings of electors, it is deemed mere claptrap and excites derision in the House of Commons. Nor must we be too severe upon the ignorance of the objectors to the grant of dower to the Princess. I once heard a member of Parliament protest against the payment of a pension to an old retired Civil servant who by statute had as good a right to this pension as the hon. member has to the profits of his business. Whilst said hon. member was speaking, an interpretative explanation from the Treasury Bench dispelled his ignorance, and at once he sat down, confused and shamed; and I think that if these working men could be made to understand that the Princesses, if not by law, has, by custom and agreement strong as law, a right to this dower, they, too, would be silent and ashamed. Let us see how this matter stands. In times past the Sovereign owned hereditary possessions over which Parliament had no control. Gradually these hereditary possessions increased, and became larger than Parliament considered necessary. Parliament then ruled that the Sovereign should have a fixed Civil List, and that all the proceeds of the hereditary revenues above the sum fixed should be paid over to the Treasury. In 1777 the Civil List was fixed at £900,000; but then it must be remembered that the King out of this had to pay the salaries of Judges, Ambassadors, and other high officials. In the reign of William IV, the Civil List was relieved of many burdens and fixed at £510,000. When Queen Victoria came to the throne it was established by Act of Parliament that during her life all the revenues of the Crown should be paid into the Consolidated Fund, and that a Civil List of £385,000 should be paid to her Majesty. But her Majesty has control over but a small portion of this sum. £325,000 go to pay the expenses of the household, as they are called, meaning the salaries, &c., of quite an army of State officials, four fifths of whom are as useless to her Majesty as a fifth wheel is to a coach—obsolete ceremonial people, grooms-in-waiting who never come to wait, gentlemen ushers, and other liveried and univerled Court ornaments—the list of whom in the "Royal Kalandar" spreads itself over eight pages. The actual annual sum which her Majesty has to expend is £60,000. Now, when this arrangement was made—mind you, with the consent of her Majesty, and without that consent it could not have been made—it was understood, though not stipulated in the Act, that Parliament should provide dower for any children her Majesty might have. Some simple people may ask why was it not stipulated in the Act. Why? Because Parliament could not pledge its successors. And now what would happen if these dowers were to be refused? The answer is, that the next Sovereign would refuse his consent to the present arrangement and claim his right to the hereditary revenues of the Crown. When this question of dower to the children of her Majesty was last before the House, Mr. Disraeli said that it was always his opinion that the present arrangement is bad one for the Sovereign. It is sheer ignorance of the matter, I am persuaded, that leads our working people to object to giving dower to Princess Louise, for Englishmen are not unjust nor ungenerous.

And now, as I have a small space to spare, let me tell our artisans a fact of which they seem also to be ignorant. They are many of them hankering after a Republic. Well, how far is our Constitution from a Republic? The House of Commons is now elected by household suffrage, and it has more power than any other elective assembly in the world—far away more power than the Congress of the United States. We have, in fact, a Republic plus a Sovereign who has literally no political power, and a House of Peers

which has very little, and what little it has is decreasing every year. The Second Chamber (the Senate) in the United States, first most pressing want now seems to be an educated constituency.

Just one sentence or two more. There is just now a vast amount of misery and suffering in France, especially in Paris, which, unless liberal aid come from without, must become greater every day. I am no advocate of meddling in other people's affairs; but helping to feed the starving and aid the helpless is a mode of intervention which all may practise, and I hope all among us will do so as far and as freely as each one's means will permit.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

Among books just published or imminent, a first place must be given to Mr. R. H. Hutton's "Essays," which, besides graver matters, include the following:—1. Goethe and His Influence.—2. Wordsworth's Genius.—3. Shelley's Poetical Mysticism.—4. Mr. Browning.—5. The Poetry of the Old Testament.—6. George Eliot.—7. Arthur Hugh Clough.—8. Nathaniel Hawthorne. This is not half the bill of fare, but what a treat it promises all lovers of subtle and undaunted thinking! From Longmans' house comes the following curious title:—"A Short Essay on Practical Experimental Philosophy: Its Use and Abuse," by the Wife of Robert Willis, M.A., F.R.S., &c., Jacksonian Professor in the University of Cambridge. The third and fourth volumes of Mr. Hepworth Dixon's "Tower" are just published by Messrs. Hurst and Blackett. These volumes close what is by most people considered Mr. Hepworth Dixon's best book, or all but his best.

I have received a number or two of a lithographed periodical called the *Semiquaver*. It is a very pleasant little affair, with, apparently, some half-private "reason of existence." All good wishes to the friends who get it up!

In the *Gentleman's Magazine* Mr. R. H. Horne commences a series of papers which promise to be very interesting, entitled "Bygone Celebrities." The first relates to the theatricals at the Duke of Devonshire's, close upon the founding of the "Guild of Literature and Art," and contains some highly amusing passages. Mr. D. Morier Evans's "Mosaics from the City" are pleasant reading; but did that millionaire Thornton take *mock-turtle* at Barch's? Apropos, in the first edition of "Maud," Mr. Tennyson spells that word millionaire with one *n*; but in the later editions he has rightly used two. The "Malvina" of Mr. Sutherland Edwards is, I am told, capital; and I do not doubt my authority. As I am going to abuse the author of "Charles Lamb at His Desk," I suppress his name. But this is nonsense:—"With one or two exceptions, I know no critic, however distinguished he may have been in his own time as a writer, whose works the world will care to preserve a single day, except, perhaps, as contemporary commentary," &c.—the rest is non-essential. Now, Sir, what next? The list of great critics includes the following names:—Aristotle, Horace, Longinus, Burke ("commonly called the Sublime"), Goethe, Lessing, Herder, Dr. Johnson, Coleridge, De Quincey, Schiller, Hazlitt, Leigh Hunt, Hartley Coleridge, Mr. Ruskin, M. de Sainte Beuve, M. Rémyat, Macaulay, Charles Lamb—and, as Sterne says, "shall I go on?" What this writer meant, perhaps, to say is that no mere writer of casual book-criticism is remembered. But, then, as Charles Lamb is one of his exceptions, he is shut out from that plea. Anyhow, people must say what they mean, or take the consequences. And Mr. Blank writes what is utter trash. The function of the critic is not tied down to particular books, or particular pictures, or particular operas or oratorios. Some of the greatest writers that ever lived have made epochs by their criticism, and would have been remembered by it if they had produced (as many of them have in fact produced) nothing else whatever. What Schlegel, or Lessing, or Goethe has to say about Hamlet, or the Laocoön, or St. Paul, would be substantially the same, if neither of those topics had any actual existence; just as geometry would remain true, though the human eye never saw another parallelogram or rhomboid.

Tinsley's is a good number. "Joshua Marvel" is excellent. So is Mr. Black's "Monarch of Mincing-lane." The picture to Mr. Justin McCarthy's "Lady Judith" is too bad. Mr. McCarthy has, perhaps, shown us his "hand" too soon, but perhaps not. He has unquestionably "struck ile" in his distinction between "egotism" and "selfishness"; but I hope he will make it plainer for his readers. It is noted in the phenological books that self-esteem is usually large in the heads of benevolent and patronising men. But Lady Judith would not be, to my mind, in "egotist." I should simply call her a hard woman. I hope, too, Mr. McCarthy will explain what he means by the lady's "disdaining to admit the element of human love." Of tender, caressing, soliciting love she was born incapable—it was a case of colour-blindness. But she appears to have been susceptible of strong, condensed attachment. Was this admirable writer thinking of Lady Byron when he drew her? By-the-by, would she have been so silly as to let Alexa escape, forewarned, in that way? And again by-the-by, let me say that, the Stowe-Byron question having repeatedly returned to my thoughts since last year, I have a deepened opinion of the essential baseness of Lady Byron's conduct. I do not say she was base. She was simply old and weak and superstitious. But what she did—from a high religious motive!—is a "caution."

Mrs. Beeton's two ladies' periodicals (the names are almost too long to write down) keep up amazingly well, and the "patterns" are very useful.

In the *Leisure Hour* one is glad to turn to Mr. Timbs's auto-biographical notes; but will nobody assure him that while the personal notices are highly interesting, the topography and history are a great deal too long and a great deal too guide-bookish? More real autobiography, Mr. Timbs, and we will bless you! The "Journeyman Engineer" on "Sick Clubs" is highly interesting and thoroughly sensible.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

The new COURT THEATRE, which has been erected out of the remains of a defunct meeting-house in Sloane-square, promises to be a very popular place of amusement. There is nothing cheap or nasty about the Court; and appointments, decorations, luxury, and uniform good taste are quite in keeping with the regal name. Profiting by the experience of all the successful new theatres, Miss Litton has determined to spare no pains to give the public the best possible theatrical article at the cheapest possible price. To begin with, she selected Mr. Walter Emden for her architect, a clever young man who has transformed the Globe from a draughty, uncomfortable, vulgar-looking house to a cosy and pretty theatre. She has taken a hint from the Gaiety management, and abolished all fees, taxes, and impositions. Instead of teasing the public with the impertinences of greedy touts, who make one's life miserable for the sake of extracting sixpences and shillings, she has filled the theatre with well-dressed, well-drilled, and invariably courteous attendants, who no more dream of taking a liberty with Miss Litton's guests than would the footmen and maid-servants in a well-ordered household. For her principal author Miss Litton has selected Mr. Gilbert, a gentleman who by sound and honest work has deservedly attracted the attention of intelligent men, and who is justly popular with the public. To assist her on the stage the manageress has summoned such genuine favourites as Mr. Hermann Vezin, Mr. Frank Matthews, Mr. Belford, and Mrs. Stephens—artists who have over and over again proved their excellence; clever and promising young people like Miss Maggie Brennan and Miss Kate Bishop; while the provinces have been scoured for new blood, which flows healthily in the veins of a young Liverpool actor, Mr. Righton. It is thus quite clear that Miss Litton deserves well of the public; and whatever might have happened, whether good fortune or ill fortune was in store for her, no one can dare deny that the manageress on attempting a new venture did not do her best. Different men have different opinions; and when I say I was a little disappointed with

"Randall's Thumb," I do not pretend to deny that there is much merit in the new comedy, or that it will please the majority of the playgoing public. You see, I rate Mr. Gilbert's powers very highly. Within the last two years he has done better work for the stage than any two of his rivals; and, recollecting "The Princess" and "The Palace of Truth," I may have—unwisely, perhaps—made up my mind for an extraordinarily good comedy, a comedy which should be a brilliant addition to the literature of the stage. "Randall's Thumb" does not come up to this standard. It is unequal. Well written throughout, it contains some very clever sketches of character, it still does not run, as a whole, so smoothly as I could have wished. Very judicious alterations have, I hear, been made since the first night. The action has been quickened, and a laughable finale, which the author could not resist, but which, as it turned out, was not appreciated by the audience, has been wisely cut out. The best acting is shown by Mr. Hermann Vezin, Miss Brennan, and Miss Kate Bishop. They were all capital. Mr. Vezin is an old hand; and it may be guessed how powerfully and earnestly he played the weary victim of the adventurer Randall. But Miss Brennan in an amusing bit of character, and Miss Bishop as a ladylike and loving girl, have never shown to such advantage before. Mr. Belford, who played Randall, the adventurer, quite followed out the author's design; but, strange to say, neither Mr. Frank Matthews nor Mrs. Stephens did as much as might have been expected from them. Mr. Righton, the new actor, made a very favourable impression, and was much applauded in what may be fairly called the best acting character in the comedy; but I should like to see him again when he has worn off his over-excitability before prophesying what position he is likely to take on the stage. Mr. Astley and Miss Burton played with none of the genuineness of young people. These characters, which should have been the freshest, were unquestionably the most uninteresting. Mr. Frank Marshall's comedietta, called "Q. E. D." is a merry trifle, which gives Miss Brennan an opportunity of showing how well she can play an Irish girl, and enables both Mr. Belford and Miss Kate Bishop to act in their very best style. A little part—a very little part—played by Miss Kate Manor, struck me as being particularly good. Altogether, the Court Theatre made a most successful début, and at once, both on account of the foresight of the management and the intelligence of the artists, it takes its place amongst our first-class theatres.

Mr. John Wood, at the ST. JAMES'S, has been playing since I wrote last in an old Lyceum trifle, called "Jenny Lind at Last;" and, with the aid of Mr. Lionel Brough, she makes the audience laugh heartily. There is nothing in Angus Reach's piece, but it is capitally acted throughout. "War," I am sorry to say, has proved such a disastrous speculation that it is withdrawn tonight; and an old piece, called "Naval Engagements," will be specially revived. Mr. William Farren plays capitally in it, and Miss Larkin and Mr. Lin Rayne will reappear. Next Thursday we are promised the new Farnie and Musgrave burlesque, called "Vesta," which promises to be more tasty entertainment than might be expected from recent experience.

Certainly the most laughable, and in many respects the best, entertainment ever produced at the GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION is Mr. W. S. Gilbert's "Sensation Novel." I have not been so much pleased for a long time. In Mr. Gilbert's happiest manner the extravagances of modern novel-writers have been satirised; and, seeing that the author had a set task before him, that of writing for a company and an audience altogether exceptional, the result is admirable. The humour never flags for an instant. The songs are introduced—and capital songs they are too—just at the right moment; and all the company appear to have been provided with characters harmonising thoroughly with the author's design, and suiting the company to a T. Mrs. German Reed is the "yellow-haired fiend, with panther-like movements." Her burlesque is inimitable. Mr. German Reed is now a worn-out author; now a wicked Baronet, in the full uniform of an officer of the Life Guards; and now a miserable cabman. Mr. Arthur Cecil is a virtuous tutor, and he sings his music so well that he is lustily encored, particularly in a comic song, which tickled the audience immensely. Mr. Corney Grain, in various disguises, is a sensation detective, always appearing too late to do any good, and he sings a patter song descriptive of the incompetency of detectives so cleverly that he is vehemently encored. Miss Holland is altogether charming as the ill-used governess. She sings one ballad so well that it is worth walking from Clapham-rise to Regent-street to hear it. This is something like ballad-singing. I was delighted with the new entertainment; and I don't mind confessing that I am longing to go again.

Saturday is set apart for Mr. Burnand's new melodrama, at the ADELPHI, which enjoys the ghastly title of "Deadman's Point; or, the Lighthouse on Carn Ruth." The Adelphi effects are highly spoken of.

The first GAITY morning performance was so successful that Mr. Hollingshead intends to give some more. We are to have the "Pickwick" scene and the "Princess of Trebizond" this (Saturday) afternoon.

Mr. Frederick Strange, being precluded from giving balls at the ALHAMBRA, because they have been decided to be "stage-plays," has remodelled his programme entirely, and provides a capital entertainment, principally musical, of which promenade concerts are prominent features. I can't help thinking that the change is for the better, and hope Mr. Strange will meet with the success his efforts merit.

THE OCCASIONAL LOUNGER.

It is not, perhaps, generally known that the late Dean Alford was a man of particularly versatile accomplishments. He was a fine singer and musician, and had with his own hands made a good organ. This is no more than many a poor working man has done; but the Dean, fifteen years ago, actually commenced the study of painting in water colours, and had before his death made himself a more than respectable proficient in the art.

The other night, at Ned Wright's Thieves' Supper, only half of the number assembled held up their hands in token of a desire to lead honest lives; but they all, though the choice of posture was offered to them, concurred in kneeling down to prayers. This reminded me of the very cool proposal at the London School Board, that there should be "prayers" at the opening of each meeting. Plenty of these gentlemen are prepared to work the Act in a sectarian spirit, and take money out of the pocket of the Jewish ratepayer for teaching what the Jew disbelieves in his conscience; and they are the very men from whom I should expect a proposal for "prayers" to come. The good sense of the Board, including that of several clergymen, rose up in arms against the proposal, as well it might. King Arthur says to Sir Bedivere—"More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of;" and who can gainsay him? Therefore, pray, gentlemen; but pray at home. If the proposal that time and place for "prayer" shall be a fixed part of the Board's forms of procedure, perhaps some other member will propose to close every meeting with a hymn, and that cushions, hymn-books, and an organ shall be provided at the cost of the ratepayers. I should like to hear the genial discussion that would ensue upon the vital question—Which Hymn-Book? Well, the motion is withdrawn! Talking about prayer and praise, the following, which I found in an evening contemporary, is not bad:—

By Divine will, my dear Augusta,
We've had again an awful buster.
Ten thousand Frenchmen sent below!
Praise God! from whom all blessings flow.

WILLIAM.
Black Eagle Chapter Day.

Imperial Quarters, Versailles, Jan. 18.
But in the first line "Divine will" should read, "will Divine."

The great annual saturnalia of Love—St. Valentine's Day—being once more near at hand, I took the liberty the other day, as is

my wont at this season, to pay a visit to the establishment of Mr. Eugene Rimmel in the course of a lounge in the Strand. I made sure that the great high-priest of love-missives would be somewhat "gravelled" to meet the demands of his patrons this year, by reason of the siege of Paris and the non-intercourse of that city with the outer world; and I felt curious to see how Mr. Rimmel would get over the difficulty, seeing that Paris is generally understood to be the source whence valentines of a refined, artistic, and elegant character come. But there seemed to have been no difficulty at all. I don't know how the thing has been managed—that is Mr. Rimmel's secret—but I found his stock as large, as varied, and as beautiful as ever. Neither in quality nor quantity, in design nor execution, in taste nor diversity, is any falling off apparent. So I presume Mr. Rimmel has largely availed himself of the facilities afforded by the balloon post; more probably he employed pigeons, fitting carriers of Love's missives, for has not that, time out of mind, been the dove's office? more probably still, though most prosaic, he took time by the forelock, being a far seeing man, and provided himself with a supply before the obdurate Prussians came to obstruct the enterprise. Be that as it may, Mr. Rimmel has valentines in galore, as anyone may learn who chooses to "go and see."

THE EMPIRE OF GERMANY.

THE German Emperor has addressed letters, with nearly the same contents, to all the Sovereigns and Free Cities of Germany announcing his assumption of the Imperial dignity. His letter to the Bremen Senate (dated Jan. 17) is as follows:—

"The Senate of the Free Town of Bremen having, conjointly with all the German Sovereigns and Free Towns, asked me, through the King of Bavaria, to re-establish the German Imperial dignity, I hereby thank the Senate for this proof of their confidence, and deem it a duty I owe to our country to answer the call that has been addressed to me to assume the German Imperial dignity, not with a view to the realisation of those claims to extraneous power, in enforcing which our domestic affairs were but too much neglected in some glorious epochs of our history; but with the firm purpose, under God's blessing, and as a truly German Sovereign, to protect the right and wield the sword of Germany for the furtherance of justice. Strong by the reunion of her Sovereigns and States, Germany has recovered her position in the council of nations; she neither needs nor wishes to aspire to anything beyond her frontier than the cultivation of friendly intercourse based upon mutual respect, and having for its object the promotion of the welfare of nations. Securely relying upon, and content with its own strength, the German Empire will, I trust, after the victorious termination of the present war, in which we have been involved by an unjustified attack, and when once we have obtained such a frontier as will protect us from France, become a realm of peace and happiness in which the nation will possess and enjoy what it has striven after for centuries. I avail myself of this occasion to assure the Free Town of Bremen of the continuance of the sentiments which I have long entertained for it."

The *Times*' correspondent at Versailles thus describes the proclamation of the German Empire in the Hall of Mirrors, at Versailles:—

"Such a press of men! At the end of the gallery rose above their heads the spear-topped shafts of the standards and colours of many regiments. Midway on the left-hand side was an altar, covered, on which was a crucifix, gold or gilt, on each side a very long taper burning, two candelabra also, around it Lutheran clergymen in their black robes and a Catholic deacon, all more or less decorated. In front of this altar a space was reserved for the King-Emperor. The hall or gallery was lined with soldiers. A certain sensation was produced as the colour of the old King's Grenadier Regiment (the 7th or 2nd West Prussian) was brought in, with its guard, to be deposited at the end of the gallery. A little after twelve o'clock there was a great hush, as the roll of drums was heard outside, and then the band began to sing the first verse of the chorale:—

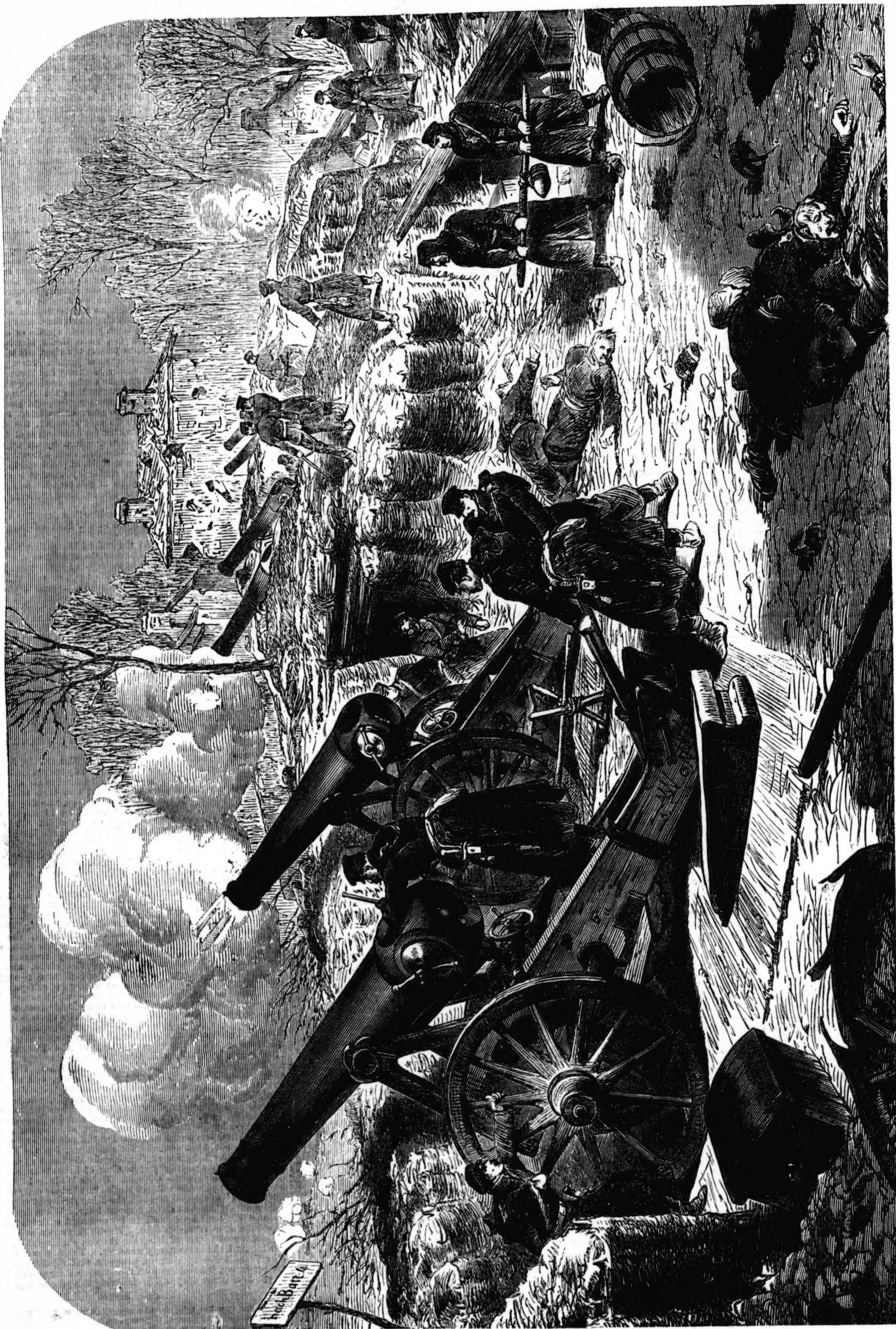
"Choir: 'Praise the Lord, all the world, &c. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.' Chorus: 'Praise and honour to the highest Good, to the Father of all Good, to God who doeth all wonders, to God who fills my spirit with his rich consolation, to God who stilleth all sorrow; give honour to our God.'"

"The King entered and walked up with a stately, firm step through the lines of his soldiery, followed by his son and by the Prince and Generals of his empire. He bowed to the altar, or to the eight clergy who stood on the steps, and then took up his place nearly beneath the allegorical picture, 'Le Roy gouverne par lui-même,' with 'L'Ordre rétabli dans les Finances' on his left, and the 'Building of a Navy' on his right. The chorale still continued. The great group formed round the King in a kind of semicircle, of which his figure was the central point. He wore a general's uniform, the ribbon of the Black Eagle (yellow), many orders, and carried his helmet in his hand. On his right was Field Marshal the Crown Prince, now Prince Imperial of Germany, whose services have so largely contributed to this end; and there were also Prince Charles and Prince Adalbert. On his left side was the Grand Duke of Baden; and then, radiating at the sides, as it were, the Grand Duke of Coburg, the Grand Duke of Weimar, the Hereditary Princes of Wurtemberg, Weimar, and Mecklenburg, the Duke of Augustenburg, the Duke Eugen of Wurtemberg, and many more whose names may be written hereafter, Bavaria being fitly represented by her Princes and Generals. Outside the circle, and some distance apart on the left of it, stood Count Bismarck—very pale, I thought; but never did man seem more calm, self-possessed—elevated, as it were, by some internal force—which caused all eyes to turn on the great figure with that indomitable face, where the will seems to be master and lord of all. The chorale over, the Court preacher Rogge, who is also military chaplain, read the Lord's Prayer and a Litany, to which the responses were sung by the band and by the 'congregation of the Princes.' The 21st Psalm followed, and then the rev. chaplain delivered an impassioned discourse, 'Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin!' addressed to France. Then was sung a hymn, and the Lord's Prayer was said, and next came the chorale, 'Nun danket alle Gott,' &c., to the end. It was a very simple, touching ceremonial, and there was silence as the preacher pronounced the benediction. The King then bowed and took his place on a dais, surrounded by the flags of the regiments, amid immense enthusiasm. There was a rush so great I could not hear or get near enough to see what occurred for a moment; but the King was declared to be Emperor of Germany in the name of God, with such a mighty cheering and waving of helmets as never was heard or seen within the chateau. Kaiser Wilhelm! And then on the tumult of voices rose the strains of what we call 'God Save the Queen'; at the end of which the King received the congratulations of his Court at an impromptu levée. When he was proclaimed Emperor he seemed to be overcome with emotion, and wiped the tears from his eyes. He did this again and again, as he went round and thanked the Princes, shaking them by the hand. At 1.15 the ceremony was over. There was feasting all over Versailles—state dinners, banquets, and rejoicings." After the ceremony, the soldiers with the standards formed up in front of the door where they had been during the proceedings within.

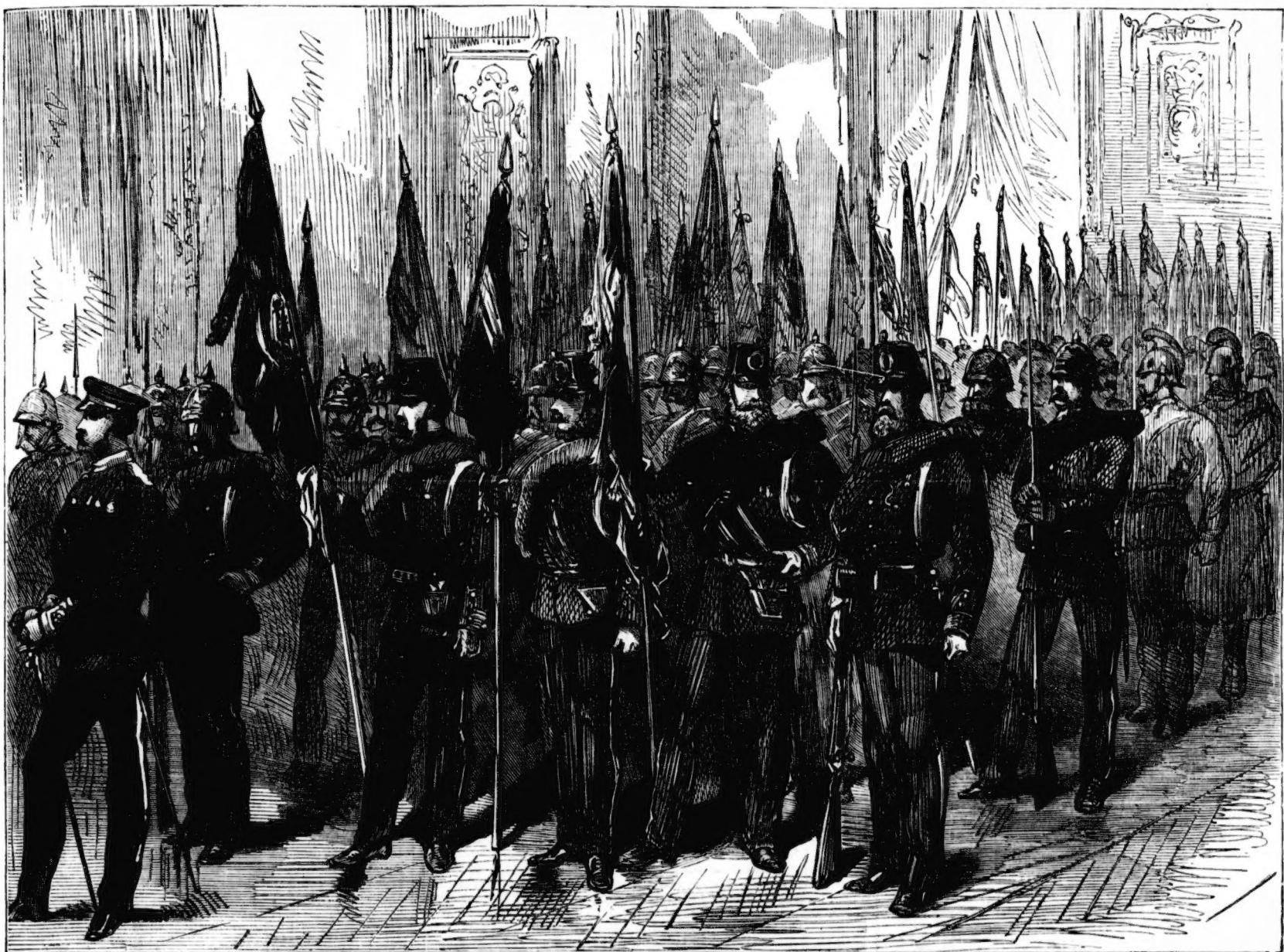
THE SULTAN has telegraphed congratulations to King William on his being proclaimed Emperor of Germany.

THE GREEK GOVERNMENT has submitted to the Chamber of Deputies a bill granting £10,000 to Mrs. Lloyd for the murder of her husband by the brigands.

THE DYKES OF MELLES, AT SMYRNA, have been destroyed by a torrent, and a large part of Smyrna is inundated. The railway bridge at Aidin has fallen in with a train of fifteen carriages, four persons being killed. The number of casualties at Smyrna is as yet unknown.



A GERMAN BATTERY AT RANCEY, BEFORE THE BATTLE.—(SEE PAGE 74.)



PROCLAMATION OF THE GERMAN EMPIRE IN THE HALL OF MIRRORS, VERSAILLES.—(SEE PAGE 71.)



RETREAT OF GENERAL CHANZY'S ARMY ACROSS THE MINED BRIDGES OVER THE MAYENNE, AT LAVAL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

WAR SKETCHES.

OUR War Sketches this week portray various phases of the contest. First in order is

A GERMAN REQUISITION PARTY

approaching Montlignan, on their way to the lines before Paris with a convoy of the produce of an extensive foray. It is not, perhaps, necessary to describe the process of "requisitioning" as practised by the soldiers of the Fatherland. Our readers must be tolerably familiar with it by this time from the repeated descriptions that have appeared in the letters of newspaper correspondents and others. Besides, it is extremely simple. A party of soldiers make their appearance in a town or village, and demand a contribution of a certain quantity of provisions; if the demand is complied with, well and good—they take the booty and depart; if it is not complied with, they set to work and help themselves to whatever comes to hand. Wagons (generally "requisitioned" too) are loaded with sacks of corn, bundles of forage, and what not; pigs, cattle, poultry, are carried off; in fact, everything edible and portable; and the produce is conducted under escort to the appointed place. In the case illustrated by our Engraving the army before Paris was the destination, and the convoy has arrived at Montlignan on its way thither.

A PROVISION COLUMN ON THE MARCH.

The system of supplying the Prussian army was described in a late Number of this Journal (see ILLUSTRATED TIMES, Dec. 31, page 434), and we will not further dwell upon the subject of our Engraving on page 69 than to say that the convoy there depicted is on the march through Franche Comté, and that its load, for a wonder, is not the fruit of "requisitioning."

A GERMAN BATTERY AT RAINCY, BEFORE PARIS.

While the duel between the big guns in the Paris forts and those in the German batteries was going on, the battery No. 3, at Raincy, took a full share in the work and sustained a full share of the casualties inflicted. Our Illustration on page 72 shows the business of bombardment in progress, and shows, too, that the men engaged here did not come off scatheless, small as the official reports state the German losses to have been.

GENERAL CHANZY'S RETREAT.

The retreat of General Chanzy's army, after its defeat at Le Mans, appears, after all, to have been something very like a rout. A correspondent, writing from Laval, on Jan. 15, says:—"I was not prepared, on arriving at Laval, to find all the symptoms of the retreat visible in this place. Not a bed to be had; every house crowded with officers of every corps. I learnt that a divisional staff was in the town. The officers were all very footsore, and had evidently come by road. It was not till this morning, however, that the town became quite aware of all that was in store for them. With early morning the retreat was in progress here in an unmistakable manner. And what a retreat! It was a pitiful sight.

"I have no doubt the French telegrams have informed you that the retreat was being made with the best order, &c. Well, here I am in the midst of these flying herds of men, and all I can say is that it is a complete 'débandade.' The corps which is passing through here is supposed to be, and is called, the 16th; but there are men, carts, cannon, battalions, companies, &c., of every other corps mixed up in the most inextricable jumble, all having marched as they listed, and by whatever route they chose; the infantry (Mobiles, Mobilisés, and Line) showing the greatest anxiety of all to get out of reach of the enemy, which is in hot pursuit. I have been told whole droves of Mobiles have marched during the night and rested during the day, in order not to be molested by the gendarmes, whose mission is to pick up and turn back disbanded soldiers, and, in short, force them back into the way they should go. General Michel's division of cavalry (who are a better kind of men) were employed all last night in scouring the villages and purging the houses and farmhouses of the Mobiles and National Guards, who had earthed themselves there by thousands. They drove them along, smiting them hip and thigh with the flat of their swords. It is really sad to have to relate such things; but what could one expect? I met some acquaintances here belonging to the 16th Corps, and they all say there is no use going on; that the troops are detestable and demoralised to an incredible degree. The losses in men on the French side have not been large. As soon as a battalion saw ten or twelve men drop they would retire swiftly, shouting that they were being decimated; the officers nothing loth to follow the men, even, as some say, to lead the way. Of course De Chanzy has a few good troops, but so very few that they are not worth mentioning as corps. Then, again, in the most shaky corps there are good, brave men; but what can one do to keep together a whole company? The French lost lots of cannon, it seems; and two batteries of mitrailleuses were taken by the Prussian infantry at one sweep. . . . The army is passing through here. The bridges are being mined. The troops are directed upon Rennes, and are grinding their corn as best they can. The railway station is evacuating its matériel as quickly as it can. Carriages are flung off with the fugitive population. Ladies with luggage and children are endeavouring to get away by the trains, which are being sent off to Rennes. No more tickets are delivered; everybody thrusts himself in where he can. The Prussians are reported to be four leagues off, and may be here this evening. No stand will be made here, as the shattered army has to be reconstructed, if the Prussians give De Chanzy time to do so."

Some allowance, perhaps, ought to be made for unconscious exaggeration in this extract, considering that the writer was in the midst of excited, because defeated and frightened, men. At all events, the pursuit was not so hot as was apprehended; and General Chanzy was enabled to stop in Laval and its vicinity, and there to undertake that reorganisation of which his army stood so greatly in need. Little has been heard from him since.

A CAVALRY CHARGE IN THE BATTLE NEAR ST. QUENTIN.

We have already published an account of the defeat of General Faidherbe's army near St. Quentin; but some further interesting details have come to hand, which we subjoin. A correspondent with Von Goeben's army, writing from St. Quentin, on Jan. 20, says:—

"We had to rise yesterday as early as five o'clock in the morning, when Beauvois was still in a blaze. Being yet dark, and having other troops marching before us, we could advance but slowly. When day broke we were before Savoy, a small village south of St. Quentin. The left wing of the French army was already engaged with the sixteenth division, the latter coming from Ham. The unceasing fire of the French rifles—always pointed out to the Germans by their officers as squandering ammunition—was not to be mistaken. Now the position of the French could pretty distinctly be made out. A better one could not be desired. To fully appreciate it you must picture St. Quentin situated within a hollow, inclosed by hills; which hilly circle is separated by a valley from a second similar circumvallation. Eastward of this natural fortress, about five thousand paces from the second height, between St. Quentin and Savoy, is a thick forest of considerable length, separated by a plain of about five hundred paces from a second forest, less extensive than the former, still more westward towards the road to Péronne, near Vermand. The French army was so posted on the second height as to have its left wing eastward of St. Quentin; the right beyond the second forest; and the bulk behind both forests, the forests being lined with soldiers. Two batteries were, in a masterly fashion, placed behind the height separating the two forests so as to be entirely concealed, their existence merely being known by the smoke after the discharge. On our side there was the sixteenth division on the right; the third cavalry division on the left wing; the fifteenth division in the centre. The respective batteries were with their divisions, and the artillery corps kept in reserve. Altogether we had 35,000 men. As far as I could learn from French prisoners, the army of

General Faidherbe, reinforced at St. Quentin, numbered no less than 65,000. The proportion of the French and Germans was more than two to one.

"At Savoy orders were given to the infantry to take the forests; and, to prepare them for that purpose, three batteries were mounted near the windmill behind Savoy, which threw their shells partly into the forests, and partly amidst those troops who were posted on the height connecting them. The French batteries likewise began to roar from behind the hill, and aimed well. I attempted to follow the infantry; but, so wide is the range of the chassepot, that at a distance of 1000 yards, where we began to advance, we had already several wounded. The French rifles are, in fact, feared by the Prussians at long distances, whilst the danger decreases in direct ratio as the distance becomes shorter. In other words, at the range of about 1500 or 2000 paces and more no Prussian would dream of discharging his rifle; and thus he stands, as it were, at the mercy of his enemy, who, by frequently firing, makes up for the shortcomings of aim. Listening, therefore, for a time to the peculiar music of the French bullets and grenades, I turned my horse round, and witnessed one of the finest and most gallant cavalry attacks I have ever seen. Immediately behind Savoy several squadrons of French dragoons were drawn up in line against about an equal number of German horse. The former were extremely nice and clean; their horses well tended; saddles and bridles apparently a few days only in use; their cloaks as if put on for the occasion. The Prussians, on the other hand, as well as their horses, were covered with mud; their uniforms, usually so neat and shiny, were all soiled from the long and toilsome marches of the last few days. I was just instituting the comparison, when the Prussians, like lightning, dashed forward against the enemy and overrode them in a pitiful manner. The first shock dismounted half the French dragoons; their new cloaks covered the ground or were trodden into the earth; whilst those who remained on their horses fell under the heavy strokes of the sharp sabres, or were made prisoners. When brought in I conversed with some of them, and learned that they had entered the army only three weeks before, and that previously to that time they had never been on a horse's back.

"It was noon, and our artillery, having no means of estimating the effect of their shells on the concealed batteries of the enemy, left off firing. They resumed it only when the French batteries had changed their front towards their right flank, probably pressed very hard by our third cavalry division, and continued and compelled the enemy to give up that excellent position. The forests were already in possession of our infantry. Two light and one heavy batteries advanced in columns at about three o'clock in the direction of St. Quentin, leaving the first forest to their left. Before that forest they were drawn up in line against the artillery of the enemy, who, being in retreat, had taken position on the first height around St. Quentin. Nearly at the same time four batteries of the artillery corps were summoned to the battle-field, and placed themselves at the right of the former batteries. Thus on the west side of St. Quentin seven batteries came into action, and the terrible grandeur of their roaring, and the whistling of their shells, were indescribable. The cavalry division continued to exercise the utmost pressure on the enemy's right, and the sixteenth division on his left, and thus he had no other course but to abandon also the last heights and to fall back into the town. One of the grandest war-pictures ever witnessed was now displayed. The full light of day had already disappeared; the huge plain on which the fiercest of battles had raged was silent; but on the right and left wing the cries of victorious troops were heard. When the enemy was driven from his last position the whole long line of infantry and cavalry, followed by the artillery, began to march on St. Quentin, drums beating, banners fluttering in the air; and amidst the shouts of 'hurrah,' advanced until they had reached the height just abandoned by the enemy. The batteries were mounted in a semicircle around the town, which the fifteenth division now took by storm, assisted by the sixteenth division, which attacked the east of the town. The enemy was no longer able to resist, and made his escape as well as he could."

CAPTURED FRANCS-TIREURS UNDER ESCORT.

The longer the war lasted the more savage it became, the Francs-Tireurs being especially the objects of German vengeance, and, on their side, showing little mercy to any prisoners that fell into their hands. Our Engraving shows a party of captives belonging to those irregular levies, who are being escorted to headquarters by infantry and uhlans. The poor fellows seem to feel that small measure of ruth is likely to be their lot, and we dare say their anticipations were only too fully realised. In connection with this subject of the treatment of Francs-Tireurs by the Germans, the *Standard* of Wednesday published a letter, for the good faith of the writer of which the editor vouches, which describes a very horrible affair, and, if the account be true, the transaction is disgraceful to the arms of Germany. We pass no opinion on the point of truthfulness, but give the letter as we find it. The writer, dating from Dijon, Jan. 25, says:—

"I have this moment returned from the hospital in this town, where I saw a sight so revolting, so fearfully horrible, that I yet ask myself am I dreaming? That the Prussians are capable of great acts of barbarity we all know, that their system of carrying on the war resembles that of the primeval savage rather than that of a civilised people, has long since been proved; but that they could be guilty of this, their last act of barbarity, no one, even here, the centre of Francs-Tireurs, believed.

"On the third day of the attack on Dijon—viz., the 23rd inst.—the engagement took place in the neighbourhood of the Château de Pouilly, from which position the enemy were eventually beaten. Amongst the prisoners taken that day were this unfortunate captain of Francs-Tireurs and ten others of his band. Previous to their retreat, the Prussians deliberately shot the ten men, simply to save themselves the trouble of conveying them, or because they were unable to do so; but upon the body of the captain they practised the most horrible acts of their savagery; and that in the most deliberate manner. Before describing the death, it is well to inform you that these men formed part of the forces under the command of the General, and fought under his orders and direction during the three days' engagement—they were carrying on no isolated warfare, but during the battle itself formed part of the forces attacking the Prussian positions at Pouilly—so that in this instance there is no excuse, even according to the law laid down by the Prussian Generals with regard to the treatment of separate bands not enrolled in the regular army. These men are no longer mere Francs-Tireurs, though bearing the name. They form part of the Army of the Vosges, and so part of the regular army of France.

"During the battle this unfortunate Captain was wounded and taken prisoner, and then, it appears, conducted to the Château of Pouilly. Here his hands were tied together, and in this manner he was suspended to a beam or some projection. While in this position, wounded and bleeding, and suffering from the strain upon his shoulder where he was torn by a piece of a shell, they collected straw and other combustibles and placed them around his legs, and then set it on fire, and left their victim to suffer the agonies of the most awful of all deaths. How long his sufferings lasted I cannot say; but that they were great and endured some time is seen from the contorted state of the body. All the clothes were burned off, with the exception of the boots and a silk hand-kerchief round the neck. The beard and hair are completely singed, and the face swollen and burnt, and with, as far as I could discern, the eyes gone. From the chin downwards the whole body is carbonised, and in some places the flesh is completely destroyed, leaving only bone. The stomach is fearfully burnt, and the raw flesh of the wound on the shoulder roasted. The skin on the hands was not carbonised, but it peeled off like dried parchment. But were I to endeavour all my life to give you a picture that represented this sad sight in its full horrors I could not succeed. The marks of the rope round the arms and wrists are clearly discernible, as,

when the flesh was carbonised, the rope cut its way into the bone. When I saw the body a photograph was being taken for distribution throughout France, and an inquest was being held in order to gather together all the proofs. Amongst others one or two Prussian surgeons, taken prisoners within the last few days, were brought, and have signed their testimony, from observation of the body, to the facts which I have narrated. Numbers of soldiers continued to come in and view this fearful spectacle, and not one amongst them while I was present but took the oath of vengeance; and from this moment the war, hideous enough in its present aspect, will yet become more so. With the army here elated with their late successes, and desirous for revenge, I almost fear to think of the future. The war was at first between two armies, then two nations, now it will be between savages—savages on the one side by nature, on the French by induction—by a desire of revenge. It has been proposed to exhibit the body on the public Place, in order to show the army concentrated here against what kind of men they are defending their homes. There are other acts of brutishness which I could narrate; but this one is sufficient to excite in the minds of English statesmen some higher principle than that which now governs their selfish neutrality, and, if not in their minds, at least in the minds of the people whose wishes they are supposed to express when they thus, contrary to all the traditions of their country, remain silent spectators of such fearful crimes and the unjust and barbarous destruction of an old ally. For the reasons which I give you elsewhere you will not publish my name, but you can add an editorial note that my good faith and truthfulness are guaranteed by you who know me."

GERMAN WOUNDED AT CHAMPS.

The hospitals of the Saxon corps were established at Champs during the siege of Paris, and to that suburban village the wounded of the 12th Corps were taken after the sorties in which that portion of the German army was engaged. Our Illustration shows number of ambulances bringing in by night the wounded who had suffered in one of the fierce encounters that have distinguished the most memorable siege on record.

FINE ARTS.

DUDLEY GALLERY.

THERE are few more comfortable lounges on a dull morning with the thermometer where it has been during the present week, than a snug little picture gallery, well shut in from draughts, with a temperate and equally warmed atmosphere, out of the dim sights and jarring sounds of the streets, and surrounded by bright memoranda of the sunny season of the year and the wealth and bloom of summer and autumn retreats; there are not many occupations more delightful than that of dreaming away an hour or two in a chair before some of the best pictures on the lightest wall. For such an occasional pleasure we may cordially recommend the gallery at the Egyptian Hall and its seventh exhibition of water-colour drawings. The works displayed this season do not exact that painful attention which is sometimes a duty with regard to large and pretentious and too original paintings: there are a large number of little pictures, quiet, unpretending, but vastly suggestive, and there are a few more striking productions of great merit which admirably answer the purpose of stimulating interest and rousing a healthy criticism.

Landscapes are of course in the majority, and they are of very varied character. Mr. Ernest Waterlow's "House on the Moor" (No. 4) being remarkable even among larger pictures for its suggestion of solitude and the effects of sky and herbage in the neutral tints of a dull day. "Fog at Sunset, Sussex," by Madame Bodichon, is another work noticeable for its dexterously produced effect obtained by real handling, and not by any trick of art. A very charming group of landscapes may be seen in Mr. George Hayes's "Conway" (44); "Castle Crag Lynton," by Mr. James Noakes (45); and "The Samnox Burn, Arran," by Mr. Alfred Powell (48). Mr. A. W. Williams has also sent a very beautiful picture, entitled "Evening, Late in Autumn" (32), remarkable for its fine even tone and depth of colour. "The Seine near Fontainebleau" (46), by Mr. Arthur Ditchfield, is a good example of that kind of force which artists too often lack. A flat scene without any prominent feature has been made into a beautiful picture by virtue of truthful colouring and wonderful mastery over those even tints which are so difficult to render effective. As a fine contrast to this level tone we may go on to Mr. Charles Earle's "Early Spring in Ecclesbourne Glen" (72), a picture full of beauty, with lovely effects of light shining through tangled greenery, and remarkable for the delicate treatment of the wild herbage and wood flowers. Another picture of "The Seine at St. Ouen, near Paris," by Mr. D'Egville, with exquisitely soft tone; a fine view of "Snowdon, from the Pen-y-Gwrd Moors," by Mr. Jackson Curnock; and a very sweet little picture entitled "Forget-Me-Nots," by Mr. Alfred Parsons, representing a little girl near the door of a cottage on a sloping bank spangled with the tiny blue flowers, form another delightful group. No. 108 and No. 111 are respectively by Mr. A. W. Williams and Mr. Ditchfield; the first, "A Summer Morning—Coast of South Wales," full of fine light and that soft sunny haze so dear to painters; the latter a fine suggestive picture representing a stretch of lone drear marsh where we may well say, "Let the wind sweep and the plover cry." No. 116, "A Dull Evening on the Thames," by Mr. C. Woodman, is an effective little bit of subdued colour, and goes well with Mr. Ferguson's "Mid-day on the Thames, near Old Windsor" (125). Another very charming scene is No. 129, by Mr. A. Grace, who may well have studied these tints,

Where the quiet coloured end of evening smiles,
Miles and miles,

with Mr. Browning's verses in his mind and a fitting realisation of them before his eyes.

There are two or three admirable pictures of Zermatt: one (No. 136) by Mr. Thomas Pritchard, a capital bit of painting of the sheds and the mountain rising beyond; another very fine representation of "The Glacier Stream," by Mr. Arthur Croft (153), and two other sketches, also by Mr. Thomas Pritchard.

Mr. J. Bannatyne's "Last Gleam on Ben Cruachan" (183) is a fine effect of light and shadow; and near it is a lovely bit of colour by Mr. Field Talfourd—a scene "Near Fawley, Hants" (189). "Autumn in the Wantage Vale, Berks," by Mr. John H. Leonard, is full of glowing sultry tints, admirably managed; and Mr. E. M. Wimperis has set a capital example of his firm, effective style in "On the Dart, Totnes" (197). "Through the Wood" (245), by Mr. Gosling; and a picture of early spring, before the bursting of the buds, by Mr. Frank Walton (247), are both excellent examples of different styles of treatment. Mr. George Mawley sends a very capital picture of "An Old Stone Quarry" (272), which appears to exhibit an increased power of handling and greater firmness when compared even with his very admirable works in last year's exhibition. In "October" (312) Mr. Albert Goodwin achieves a rare success. The wonderfully airy effect of the scene, which represents woods in autumn, is evidence of great skill. Near this charming picture is another exquisite bit of work by Mr. Heywood Hardy (321) representing a mounted farmer urging his horse onward as the shades of evening gather, and "the west yet glimmers with some streaks of day." A very remarkable picture of "A Derbyshire Clough," by Mr. Walter Crane, shows what may be done by fine handling and absolute truth to nature. This is a picture worth studying; and as a contrast in scene, but with the same high qualities of finish, may be mentioned Mr. John E. Croft's "Mill near Hurstwood" (380). In sea and water subjects the gallery is very rich, and it has one or two admirable street scenes. Among the latter we must at once mention "Old Houses at Rye" (9), by Miss Augusta Frere, as fine in colour and intensity of tone as anything of the sort we have seen this season. "Salvage on the Coast of Cornwall" (19), by Mr. George Dighton, is a bold bit of sea and cliff full of fine atmosphere. Mr. John Richardson's "Row

Literature.

Beethoven. A Memoir. By ELLIOTT GRAEME. London: Charles Griffin and Co.

"to the Moors" (40) is a capital picture, representing Highland sportsmen with their dogs on their way along a loch in a broad-beamed boat. Mr. Harry C. Leslie sends a fine realistic little sketch of "North Quay, Yarmouth" (69), and Mr. W. H. Mason a capital, bold piece of work called "Running for Port" (105), a capital, finely-rendered water-scape, "On the Arun" (133). The launch of a Lochline Fishing-Smack" (167), by Mr. Hamilton Macallum, is a capital picture, representing a group of rugged fishermen shouldering their vessel down the beach towards the water. This is, certainly, one of the most striking works in the exhibition, if we except "Flounder Spearing" (217), by the same artist.

A very sweet little bit of water scenery will be noticed in Mr. Walter Field's "Ferry" (180). Mr. Pillieu's "Minich, on the Nile" (236), is an exquisite piece of colouring, so fine and even in texture and so soft in tone that the eye dwells on it with increasing enjoyment. "Thuan" (237), by Mr. Charles Earle, is a bold and well-executed picture; and a very beautiful effect of light may be seen in Mr. N. E. Green's charming work, "Benvenue from Loch Achray—Clearing up after Rain" (296). One of the most attractive bits of colour in these water pictures will be found in Mr. Townley Green's "Still Waters" (277), a quiet, domestic couple of half a century ago standing on a frail rustic bridge above a clear pool, where they look down upon the bright gleam of the green reflections among the budding water-lilies. It is an exquisite bit of peaceful suggestion, and should be regarded tenderly. "Trawling-Smacks Hove-to off Hastings" (337) is a capital bit of fishing life by Mr. C. Taylor, who knows how to render a liquid sea. Mr. T. J. Soper sends a charming sketch of "Twickenham" (343), full of fine light and the gleam and shadow of water. "Arundel—High Tide" (362) and "The Coming Tide" (363), by Mr. Harry Goodwin and Mr. C. E. Johnson respectively, offer a fine contrast—the first, full of soft colour; and the second a rugged, tempestuous beach, with the sand-laden ridges of wave lapping over sharp rock-edges, and almost wetting the feet of the sea-birds feeding on the shore. Mr. C. Richardson's "Morning on Tynemouth Sands" (406) is another fine picture, with which we must end our notice of the seapieces.

Of the figure and genre subjects there is less to say, though there are a few admirable works. Two little sketches by Mr. Francis Walker, entitled "A Puritan's Back" (6) and "A Friend of Cromwell's" (7), will command attention for the amount of character that distinguishes them; and Mr. J. A. Fitzgerald's elaborately-finished work, "The Enchanted Forest" (8), will attract visitors because of the fine sense of something weird in the delicate beauty of the sprites; its brilliant colouring, too, makes it at once a prominent object in the gallery. "Left Behind" (15), by Miss Adelaide Claxton, is a very clever picture, representing an old lady sitting gazing into a fire, while the shades of young men, maidens, and children surround her chair, or touch her, or hang by her arm. The shadowy forms are admirably managed; but they are all so carefully dressed, and look so natural, while the old lady is also so nicely attired, and has such a "company cap" on, that we are led to doubt whether the artist intends us to suppose that the poor old soul remains solitary in life by the loss of all the branches of her family, or that she has been left behind while everybody else has gone off to an evening party. A very charming picture is Mr. Joseph Knight's "Blanchisseuses—Bretonne" (28), representing a number of French laundresses on a pleasant orchard lawn. The perspective of this picture is so fine, and its green tint so beautiful, that it is worth much study. "At Treport—War News" (57), is a capital assembly of fisherwomen on the beach eagerly discussing the latest intelligence. "The White Cockade" (70), by Mr. Luxmoore, is an admirable picture, representing a girl sewing a bow of ribbon on to a military three-cornered hat. The elaborate finish of the brocade dress, and the fineness of texture and finish, are, however, the greatest points in the work. Mr. Arthur Hill sends a very sweet picture (84) of a homely but pleasant young woman tending a lily in a flower-pot; and Mr. Thorne-waite contributes two capital little sketches of children, "The Standard Height" (94) and "A Good Haul" (97). "Cinderella and her Sisters" (123) is a firmly-coloured and telling picture by Mr. C. Napier Henry; but it is, we think, too stern in treatment for the subject, and is characterised by the artist's usual dark, solid outlines to an unpleasant extent.

"Curiosity" (130) and "Peep-Bo" (131) are two pretty little domestic subjects, the first by Mr. A. W. Bayes, and the second by Miss Bouvier. Visitors will recognise Mr. A. B. Houghton's "Son of Asgard" (141) as having been sent from another exhibition, but this will not detract from the appreciation of its fine tones and rich colour. "The Village Smithy" (164), by Mr. J. D. Watson, is a capital little drawing, which may well be coveted by many who yet will not see all its merits. "Disturbed," by Mr. J. W. Bottomley (151), is full of humour. It represents a surly pug dog worried out of his summer's sleep by a wasp, and is capitally treated. "The Keeper's Boy" is an excellent picture of a country lad with dogs and game, by Mr. James Hardy, jun., and exhibits admirable colouring. "Doubtful Friends" (188), by Edwin Bale, represents the close attentions of a flock of geese following a timid lad whose basket seems the great attraction to his feathered attendants. The picture is distinguished both by humour and good drawing. The most distinctly-humorous work in the gallery, however, is "Thoughts of Christmas" (269), by Mr. H. S. Marks, representing a friar wandering in the woods, on pious thoughts intent, but disturbed in his meditations by the aspect of a tiny herd of fattening swine. His smile "at thoughts of Christmas brawn" is full of character, and the whole work is eminently mirth-provoking. With "Pippa Passes" (271), a very charming work, suggested by Browning's poem, by Mr. J. B. Yeates, and a portrait of Lady Wensleydale by Mr. E. J. Poynter, A.R.A., we must close our present notice. To the latter work—a small half-length picture—we must, however, direct especial attention as one of the finest examples of elaborate, careful, and yet free and lifelike execution which has been exhibited for a very long time.

AID FOR FRENCH FARMERS.—Lord Vernon presided, on Monday, over a meeting of the general committee of the French Peasant Farmers' Seed Fund, at which a resolution was unanimously adopted in favour of ensuring the services of an agent or agents to proceed to France for the purpose of aiding in the distribution of seed. Another resolution intrusted to the executive all the arrangements necessary for carrying out this work. The money donations previously promised amounted to £2676, and additional subscriptions to the amount of upwards of £400 were announced before the meeting separated. The Earl of Airlie, Captain Talbot, M.P., Mr. Caird, C.B., and Mr. J. R. Robinson were amongst the speakers.

SENSIBLE WORDS FROM ORANGEMEN.—The Grand Lodge of Independent Orangemen have published an important address. They express an opinion that the disestablishment of the Irish Church will exert a healing influence as time progresses and men become satisfied with a position of absolute religious equality in their relation to the State. The question of non-sectarian education, they think, claims the early notice of Parliament. The inculcation of a sound secular education has conferred an inestimable boon upon the present generation; and we trust that no Government will ever be induced for any temporary purpose of party to subvert a system which has produced good results, not only in this land, but wherever our fellow-countrymen have found a home." On University tests they say:—"The opening of the Universities of Dublin, Oxford, and Cambridge, and the removal of all existing disabilities associated with them, should be immediately decided on the basis of equal rights. We are also of opinion that the principle of disendowment and disestablishment should be applied to all ecclesiastical corporations. The corrupt practices of Ritualism, engrained upon Protestantism and destroying its vitality, could scarcely exist when the lay element participates in Church government, and controls the selection and appointment of the officiating clergy." The independent Orangemen are of opinion that the strict policy of non-intervention should be applied generally. "We protest against the interference of our Government in the internal affairs of the Italian kingdom, on the same principle that we object to any armed intervention on behalf of either of the belligerents at present engaged in deadly conflict on the soil of France. War is a terrible evil; and we trust that the Supreme Disposer of events will avert that dread calamity from the dominions of our gracious and beloved Sovereign."

save her father from the consequence of his malversations, is not that suggestive of Pauline Deschappelle and M. Beauregard? and the detective Proul is just Mr. Anthony Trollope's detective in "He Knew He Was Right" over again. Still, notwithstanding all this, "Fenton's Quest" is not a dull novel—nay, is a very interesting novel; and for the simple reason that the authoress is a woman of talent, if not of genius, and probably could not write an unreadable book even if she tried. Her latest production is very readable indeed; and if readers have not too-ready memories and do not care to be hypercritical, they will enjoy "Fenton's Quest" greatly, and probably even critics will find less to object to in it than in most of Miss Braddon's earlier efforts.

"Dorothy Fox" is a story of the perfectly harmless, but decidedly common-place, school of fiction. The shelves of every circulating library contain dozens like it; Mudie's must be crowded with them. The characters include fashionable people and tradespeople; and their different ways of thinking, acting, speaking, and living are fairly enough portrayed; but has not all that been done times without number before? The fashionable aristocrats—of whom Lady Laura Verschoyle is the type—are poor, proud, scheming, worldly, and therefore mean; the tradespeople (Friends most of them are) exhibit (some of the female portion of them, at all events) true gentility in that they are simple, sincere, cultivated, and yet unassuming; and of these, Patience Fox and her pretty daughter Dorothy are very lovable specimens. But none of the characters are at all original conceptions or masterly delineations which will rank among the gallery of illustrious creations which English fiction can boast. Their sayings and doings may please or displease you as you read; but they will be forgotten almost as soon as the book is laid aside; and you may lay the book aside at any time, and feel no overpowering desire to take it up again. In short, "Dorothy Fox" is a book for the circulating library—and that is all. No, not quite; for the book affords us a curious glimpse into the inner life of the Quakers, and of the remarkable revolution in their opinions that has been going on of late years, and with which the authoress seems fully conversant.

In Mr. T. A. Trollope's volumes we have metal more attractive, and cannot read half a dozen pages till we feel that we are in different companionship altogether. Here we have a narrative of strong interest; a pleasing style; powerfully delineated individuality of character; a skilfully-constructed plot; some incisive bits of moral anatomy; and very realistic pictures of social life in Italy at the close of last century. On one point, perhaps, we might find fault with Mr. Trollope; namely, on the score of arrangement. Had the opening portion come in at a later period, the author would have been saved a good deal of repetition and the reader strong temptations to "skip." Book I. makes us familiar with the characters of most of the actors in the drama, and we are apt to care little, consequently, for the elaborate delineations of those characters given in subsequent divisions of the work. Hence the temptation to "skip." And yet "skipping" is not advisable with Mr. Trollope, for all his matter will repay careful perusal. Another thing to which objection might possibly be taken is that our author's details of certain features of social life in Italy are just a trifle too realistic; the result being to render the book better adapted for the perusal of adults than of young people, and of males than of females. But then the story is a story of life in Italy seventy odd years since, not of life in England now; and these realistic touches become necessary to the truthfulness of the picture; and, after all, they are not offensively stated. The story, as we have said, is a tale of Italy at the close of last century; the scene is the ancient city of Ravenna; the actors are persons of note there, with the addition of a pretty Venetian artist and a then famous prima donna, Bianca Lalli by name, and the "Siren" who gives a title to the book. This "diva" comes to Ravenna from Milan with a slightly besmirched reputation—that is to say, feeling herself becoming a little passé, she had endeavoured to lure a certain Lombard Duke into marriage, the intrigue having been cut short and the siren sent adrift by the paternal Austrian Governor of the province. "La Lalli" attempts the same tactics in Ravenna, her intended victim being the Marchese Lamberto di Castelmare, the "most solid man in the city;" and out of this fresh intrigue the chief complications of the tale arise. But how these arise and how the plot is worked out, we must leave readers to discover from the book itself. All we need say is, that it is worked out in a most skilful and effective manner, and that this work has in it a degree of "grit" and vigour rarely met with in novels nowadays. In "A Siren" Mr. T. Adolphus Trollope has added a rose not only to his own literary chaplet but also to that which adorns his name.

Mr. Donelan's story, while it will remind middle-aged readers of some of the popular tales of their youth, and recall Miss Edgeworth and half a dozen other admirable writers, will not fail to interest the present subscribers to the libraries whence the periodical parcel is sent to furnish family reading. As "a tale of Irish life," it is capitalily constructed; and the local colouring as well as the characters will at once attest the truth of that part of its title. It has, however, very special claims on the grounds of a certain delicacy of treatment and diction not too common in these days of sensationalism; while, where the language is a little stilted or formal, even in the conversational portion, the reader will scarcely require to be reminded—first, that the persons supposed to be speaking are educated Irishmen and Irishwomen, to whom a certain fine-wordsomeness seems to be natural; and, secondly, that the sentiments expressed are so indicative of the temper and disposition of the personages supposed to be speaking that the slight touch of grandiloquence is only perceived by a critical observer. The original title of the work (changed because it had already been used—a fact of which the author was not aware until the book was printed) was "Sowing and Reaping;" and this would be more suggestive of the plot of the story, though we soon discover the meaning of "The Value of Fosterstown"—an Irish estate, obtained by one James Foster from his elder brother Reginald because of the latter refusing to conform according to the statute passed in the reign of William III. The younger brother, whose desire to possess the property was stimulated by the hope of marrying a girl who was also beloved by Reginald, being prompted to this course by the son of the steward, succeeds in his designs; and the progress of the story may be said to involve the kind of expiation which the family have to make for this baseness. We are mainly interested, therefore, in the families of the sons of Reginald, who takes service in the Austrian army; and of James, who dies, and leaves a successor too much like him in habits and disposition. This gentleman—Mr. Michael Foster—is twice married and twice widowed. Two children of his second wife he keeps with him in Ireland—a boy and a girl; the daughter of his first wife he leaves with her maternal grandfather in France, and only sends for her when she has grown to be a beautiful and intelligent young woman. She has never seen her half brother and sister; and she and her father are strangers. The widow of the grandson of Reginald Foster is a woman of small property, living with her son in Dublin. He also is named Reginald, and retains an indignant recollection of the wrong done to his family by the treachery of James, his grand-uncle. This, however, does not prevent the families meeting. Experienced novel readers will find little difficulty in hazarding a guess about some probable passages in this family history; but we generally make it a rule not to spoil the plots of two-volume stories by outlining them for the reader. It will be sufficient to say that the loves and losses of the pretty but uncertain Annie, the descriptions of the circle in which the Fosters move, and the very well sustained interest of pathos and passion throughout the book, will make it pleasant reading for those who are still fastidious enough to like a remaining influence of the style that we are, for our part, glad to see has not been wholly superseded by modern criminal literature.



THE BATTLE NEAR ST. QUENTIN: CHARGE OF GERMAN CAVALRY.—(SEE PAGE 74.)



A PARTY OF FRENCH PRISONERS (FRANCS-TIREURS) UNDER ESCORT.—(SEE PAGE 74.)



THE FIGHTING BEFORE PARIS: ARRIVAL OF SAXON WOUNDED AT THE HOSPITALS IN CHAMPS BY NIGHT.—(SEE PAGE 74.)

MUSIC.

THE managers of the Lyceum Opera Buffa are either not anxious to increase their repertory or their performances are attractive enough to make variety superfluous. Let us hope the latter is the case; but, anyhow, we have nothing new to record this week. "Ali Baba," "Crispino e la Comare," and "L'Elisir d'Amore" sustain the fortunes of the house, with what success will appear before long, since it can hardly be doubted that the spirited effort of Messrs. Mattei, Hutchings, and Verger is passing through that *mévaïse quart d'heure* to which so many promising enterprises succumb. Meanwhile, the Lyceum Opera has the best wishes of all who desire to see a noble form of entertainment naturalised among us. Hitherto opera has been an exotic, and pessimists say an exotic it must remain. *Nous verrons*.

That the advantages of the Monday Popular Concerts might reach those who cannot well attend an evening performance, Mr. Arthur Chappell has been in the habit of giving a series of matinées on successive Saturdays during a part of each season. The first concert for the present year took place, on Saturday last, in St. James's Hall, the artists being Madame Néruda, Miss Agnes Zimmermann, Messrs. Ries, Straus, Piatti, Lazarus, and Herr Stockhausen (vocalist). A more popular programme could hardly have been devised, including as it did Mozart's clarinet quintet; Beethoven's trio, No. 2 (op. 1); Handel's *Suite de Pièces*, best known as containing "The Harmonious Blacksmith"; the adagio in F, from Spohr's ninth violin concerto; and some selections from the "Winterreise" of Schubert. All these favourites were admirably rendered by the competent performers whose names we have given, and a large audience seemed highly delighted with the treat. At to-day's concert Madame Schumann will appear, the programme being not less attractive than that just noticed.

The distinguished pianist last named made her *entrée* on Monday, and was received with the full honours which Mr. Chappell's patrons know so well how to bestow on deserving artists. Madame Schumann is now a regular feature of the Monday Popular scheme; and, although the advance of time has necessarily affected her execution, the favour well earned by past achievements and continued artistic and intellectual power remains as great as ever. These abiding characteristics were forcibly displayed in a vigorous and striking rendering of Schubert's sonata in A minor—one of those works which Madame Schumann has by frequent use thoroughly mastered. The performance was heard with interest, and applauded with all the enthusiasm it deserved. Madame Schumann also took part (with Madame Norman-Néruda) in Beethoven's sonata for piano and violin (op. 30), besides playing the accompaniments of her late husband's song "Der Nussbaum," to the singing of Herr Stockhausen. The quartets given at this concert were Mendelssohn's in E flat—a very popular work; and that by Haydn in G major, known as op. 64. In addition to Schumann's lied, Herr Stockhausen sang an air by Buonocini, "Per la gloria," which imparted a very favourable idea of the man who was once the rival of Handel and the subject of Dean Swift's epigrammatic wit.

At the Crystal Palace, last Saturday, the *pièce de résistance* was Mendelssohn's Italian symphony, that glorious work having a very fine rendering under Mr. Mann's guidance. Its abounding life and not less pervading beauty were displayed after a fashion which enchain'd the attention of a huge audience from the first note to the last. In truth, it is a masterpiece of art, and such as only could have been dictated by the fancy of youth, stimulated by more than youthful buoyancy and guided by far more than youthful skill. Other important selections were Professor Bennett's elegant overture "Die Naiden," an overture honourable to English art; Mozart's piano-forte concerto in B flat, played by Mr. Charles Hallé; and the ballet music written by M. Gounod for his "Faust," when that work was produced at the Paris Grand Opéra less than two years ago. The concerto pleased, but not greatly; for though quite à la Mozart, and having the charm of comparative novelty, it is too small in dimensions and trivial in theme to satisfy those whose notion of the composer is based upon his better known, because more worthy, effusions. M. Gounod's ballet music can be dismissed with the remark that, however admirable it may be in its proper place, the effect it produces in a concert-room is not great. The vocalists were Madame Leon Duval and Mr. Sims Reeves, of whom the latter carried off the honours, thanks to his splendid singing of "Deeper and deeper still," and Schubert's "Weary Flowers."

A large audience attended the fifth of Mr. John Boosey's Ballad Concerts, given in St. James's Hall, on Wednesday evening. Mr. Sims Reeves was to have been present, but illness prevented; and the same cause kept away Mr. Vernon Rigby, the engaged *locum tenens*. These accidents, however, little affected the success of the entertainment, if applause and encores may be taken in proof of satisfaction. Several novelties were in the programme, among them a song, "The Yeoman's Wedding-Day," by Prince Poniatowski, which Mr. Santley gave in magnificent style, and for which he won an encore. The composition has all the merit anticipated from the known ability of its composer, and ought to meet with extensive favour. Many other vocal pieces were given by Madame Sherrington, Miss Wynne, Madame Pathey, Mdlle. Enriquez, and Mr. Santley; two piano-forte morceaux were well played by Miss Linda Scates; and M. Auguste van Biene, a violoncellist of rare attainments, was successful with a fantasia on "La Fille du Régiment." Mr. J. L. Hatton conducted.

HOW THE "TIMES" WAS SENT TO PARIS.—The long columns of announcements in the *Times* intended for friends in Paris have for some time been a frequent subject of remark, and people have wondered what chance there was of their ever reaching the eyes for which they were meant. The means adopted for this purpose are thus explained in the *Times*:—"These pages of the paper which contained communications to relatives in Paris were photographed with great care by the London Stereoscopic and Photographic Company on pieces of thin and almost transparent paper, about 1½ in. in length by 1 in. in width. On these impressions there could be seen by the naked eye only two legible words, 'The Times,' and six narrow brown bands representing the six columns of printed matter forming a page of the newspaper. Under the microscope, however, the brown spaces became legible, and every line of the newspaper was found to have been distinctly copied and with the greatest clearness. The photographs were sent to Bordeaux for transmission thence by carrier pigeon to Paris. When received there they were magnified, by the aid of the magic lantern, to a large size and thrown upon a screen. A staff of clerks immediately transcribed the messages and sent them off to the places indicated by the advertisers."

THE POST OFFICE AND TELEGRAPHY.—Last Saturday a number of gentlemen, for the most part connected with the press, met at the Post Office, on the invitation of Mr. Soudamore, to witness the working of Mr. Siemens's patent pneumatic apparatus for the sending of telegraphic messages. Amongst those present were Mr. Soudamore; Mr. Culley, engineer-in-chief to the Post Office; Mr. R. W. Johnston, of the telegraph department; and Mr. Siemens, the inventor. The line upon which the new system has been tried extends from Telegraph-street to the General Post Office (352 yards), and from the General Post Office to Fleet-street (652 yards); making a total of 1704 yards. It was opened for business only last Wednesday, and, notwithstanding the disadvantages of working a new system, the results have been satisfactory. It saves time, it saves the cost of twelve clerks, and it does away with the possibility of the mistakes which now occur in the transcribing and transmission of messages from the district telegraph offices to the central ones. The method of sending messages and letters through pneumatic tubes is by no means new, and has been practised for at least sixteen years. There are four miles and 638 yards of such tubes in London alone, and over two miles in some of the principal towns of the kingdom. All these lines are worked on what is known as Clark's system. The difference between this and Mr. Siemens's system is that the former is worked on the vacuum principle, the latter on the vacuum and pressure principle combined, thereby increasing the speed and certainty of transmission. Mr. Siemens's system has been at work for some years in Berlin, and it is now for the first time made use of in this country. The line now in operation consists of two tubes of 3 in. diameter. The operator at the Telegraph-street office, for example, has telegrams and letters to send to St. Martin's-le-Grand, and he telegraphs the fact of their being sent. The operator at the Post Office notices the arrival of the "carrier," a hollow cylinder of felt, containing the despatches; he blocks the line for a moment, takes out the "carrier," and proceeds to open the line again. The whole operation occupies less than two minutes. Should it be found to answer, the line will be extended to Charing-cross, the Houses of Parliament, and perhaps still further.

ARMY ORGANISATION.

We cannot too emphatically recommend to the attention of politicians, and of all men who have an intelligent interest in the vital question of our national defences, a remarkable article by Professor Cairnes in the new number of the *Fortnightly*. The question, as it presents itself to that eminent writer, is one of "A National or a Standing Army;" and, as British readers are more apt to be influenced by facts and figures than by mere sentiment, he begins by placing few startling data side by side. In France, before the present war, the Army Estimates for last year amounted, in round numbers, to £14,000,000, representing the total available effective strength of the army on a peace establishment. The Army Estimates of Prussia at the same period amounted, in round numbers, to £7,000,000, representing a total available effective strength of 500,000 men in time of peace. The Army Estimates of England amounted, at the same period, to an average total of £14,000,000, representing a total available effective strength of 40,000 men. The total annual cost of each German soldier was £29; of each French soldier, £41; of each English soldier, £100. So much for relative cost, budget for budget, man for man. Professor Cairnes then takes a survey of the leading types of military organisation presented by the principal countries of Europe. He divides these into three categories—viz., standing armies (recruited by voluntary enlistment), as in England; national armies, as in Prussia and Switzerland; armies of a mixed kind, as in France. In England, the militia and volunteers represent rather "material for reserves" than actual reserves. Here, being thrown upon the labour market for recruits, and the soldier's trade declining constantly in general estimation with the progress of industry and the growth of prosperity, the Government is compelled repeatedly to raise its terms, and yet to obtain recruits from "the lowest and least reputable classes of the community." Thus the system becomes more and more costly, and the class of recruits tends more and more to deterioration. Voluntary enlistment necessitates long service; recruits expect a permanent vocation; hence a large force of ineffectives in the character of pensioners. It results that the British Army, as at present constituted, is the costliest in the world, and becomes more and more costly at each stage of social progress, and more and more a caste apart from civil life. But Prussia, where the foundation of the military force is "not contract but status," combines the bulk of the whole able-bodied population. The term of service is short—three years to the French five and the English twelve—with a reserve strength in proportion of three to one to the active force in time of peace. The cheapness of this establishment—just half the English estimates—arises from its very nature and constitution. There are no ineffectives; the soldier returns to civil life and productive industry; thus that economic waste and that social mischief (against which we are providing by Contagious Diseases Acts) are altogether avoided. It is true, as Professor Cairnes, with characteristic fairness and accuracy, remarks, that to the direct cost of such a force must be added the aggregate of private losses "from inadequate payment of the troops actually under arms;" but the fact remains that such an army must be a representation of the whole community; or, in other words, "essentially a national and popular army." If, indeed, the Prussian army, owing to the immense force kept on foot in peace time, possesses not a few of the attributes of a standing army, and appears to be capable of acting as a powerful instrument of aggression, it is not the wide popular basis, but the aristocratic organisation of the higher ranks, that creates this danger; and the source of the danger is to be sought less in the military system than in the political constitution of the State. As Professor Cairnes goes on to say, "the remedy lies, not in abandoning the popular organisation of the army, but in bringing the Government under Parliamentary control; not in curtailing, but in developing, the Democratic principle."

Turning to the French military system, what do we perceive? Conscription by lot, tempered with the privilege (more and more largely used at every stage of social and industrial progress) of exemption by money payment, in defiance of that boasted principle of the Revolution—equality before the law. Thus the French army is more and more recruited from the lowest classes, and is consequently less and less representative of the whole community, and cannot develop its reserves as national and popular armies do, as the Second Empire was afraid to do. Napoleon III. tried to form a Pratorian army of veterans devoted to his dynasty by bribing old soldiers with the money paid by conscripts to their substitutes. So the French army became a standing army of long service, recruited from the lowest classes, and without reserves, at an annual cost for which we in England maintain about a sixth of its available effective strength, and double the cost of the Prussian army. Here we cannot do better than invite the earnest attention of our readers to the following pregnant sentence:—"One cannot but remark," writes Professor Cairnes, "with some uneasiness, in this comparison of the French and Prussian military systems with our own, that the points on which the French system differs from the Prussian are precisely those in which ours also differs from the Prussian, though in a more extreme degree, *our system exaggerating in every instance those features of organisation which were peculiar to the French*, and to which, it now seems tolerably plain, the collapse of that system has been mainly due." Under the impression of this "sinister omen," Professor Cairnes passes on to inquire what resources our State demands, what we want to obtain that confidence in the stability of our position" which is the only remedy for discreditable panics. "What we want is not a large standing army to crush us with its cost during peace, and then, when the time of trial comes, to fall to pieces at the first shock, leaving us helpless in presence of our adversary, but an organisation entailing small expense in time of peace, but capable, when the need arises, of giving us army after army till the invader is subdued; an organisation in which every man should know his place and fall into line, with the certainty of disciplined habit." We want a military system which, being "really effective for defence, would, in an extreme emergency, be effective for something more." Now, can we get this, or anything like it, out of our existing organisation? The question answers itself. "An adequate army on our present system would be ruinous; it would more than exhaust our entire revenue." Professor Cairnes concludes, that "a reform of our military system on the principle of a national army is a necessity of the case." How are we to set about this task? First—"The purchase system must be absolutely swept away. While a shred of it remains, it is plain that nothing of any moment can be done." Secondly—"The militia and volunteers must be brought into such relations with the Line as to constitute the whole in effect a single system, moulded by the same training, and subject to the same discipline." Thirdly—"Short service; inasmuch as "the great scale of force obtainable from military organisation on the popular plan" means "not forces actually on foot, and weighing on the resources of the country," but "potential" armies available in the hour of need. Then how is such a national and popular army to be recruited? Professor Cairnes is for universal compulsory service. It is not, however, to Prussia, but to Switzerland, that Professor Cairnes looks for our model and example; to that free and hardy nation which keeps no permanent army in time of peace; whose entire force is "potential," and "exists exclusively on reserves;" whose every able-bodied citizen is bound by law to serve in person in the ranks, and to undergo complete military training. "Within a week of the French declaration of war, this small State placed 40,000 men—infantry, cavalry, and artillery—in line upon her frontier." The total annual cost of the Swiss "potential" army of 200,000 men, out of a population of about 2,500,000, is £333,000 sterling; and the amount of interruption to civil and industrial pursuits from the calls of the army is—for infantry, from 100 to 110 days over a total period of 25 years; for engineers, artillery, and carabiniers, 100 days; for cavalry, 170 days; with 50 days

additional for the non-commissioned officers, and 100 per cent in addition for officers. In short, a country less populous than Scotland maintains an effective army of 200,000 men at a cost less than we pay for ineffectives alone."—*Daily News*.

SMALLPOX AND VACCINATION.

DR. DOMETT STONE has contributed the following useful information on the value of vaccination as a preventive of smallpox:—"That vaccination is a sure preventive of smallpox has been proved by 'the inexorable logic of facts.' National statistics show, as mentioned by Dr. A. B. Steele at a meeting of the Liverpool Medical Institution, that the mortality from this disease for thirty years prior to vaccination was 3000 per million of population per annum; the present death-rate from the same cause amounts only to 200 per million. Previous to the extension of the Vaccination Act in Scotland the average yearly deaths from smallpox were 1054, and in Ireland from 2000 to 5000. Since vaccination has been systematically carried out the mortality from this disease in both countries has progressively decreased, and last year was entirely abolished. The population of Marseilles, at the time of an epidemic there in 1828, was estimated at 40,000—30,000 vaccinated, 2000 variolated, and 8000 unprotected. Among the 30,000 vaccinated about 2000 were attacked, and twenty perished—one, namely, in a hundred. Of the 8000 unprotected 4000 were attacked, and 1000, or one in every four, died: and out of the 2000 variolated twenty took the disease a second time, and four died, or one in five. In the *Half-Yearly Abstract of the Medical Sciences*, vol. iii., appears the following declaration, published by the Academy of Medicine of France, immediately prior to the Franco-Prussian war:—

Vaccine is a preservative against variola, although, after a certain time, re-vaccination is indispensable for assuring complete immunity against contagion. Re-vaccination is absolutely exempt from danger. The Academy formally repudiates all that has been stated to the contrary. Re-vaccination may be useful at any age. It may be practiced without inconvenience during the course of an epidemic. Moreover, it is known that in small places, in families, in schools, and in certain collections of individuals, re-vaccination has sufficed to avert a commencing epidemic. The epidemic of smallpox now raging at Paris and at other parts of the territory has supplied the most convincing proofs of the preservative power of re-vaccination. In various army corps, and especially in the Garde de Paris, in various establishments, both public and private, and also in some of the municipal schools, variola has been extinguished under the influence of re-vaccination. Finally, recent statistics, chiefly those collected in the civil hospitals of Paris, prove in a most formal manner that persons who had been re-vaccinated were attacked in very small numbers, and then but very slightly and without figuring in the bills of mortality. It is of the greatest importance, then, both in public and individual interest, to extend by all possible means the practice of re-vaccination.

"This document will, it is to be hoped, convince many persons of the importance of re-vaccination, an operation which, I submit, cannot be too strongly enjoined. I have now under my notice a young lady who, though vaccinated when a child, has contracted the disease, and is now lying in a dangerous state; and a fortnight ago I was called to a patient, aged twenty-eight, who had also been vaccinated when a child, and whom I found in a most hopeless condition. On the fourth day of my attendance he was a corpse.

"Since some persons are under the impression that the vaccine matter now produced is less powerful than it was years ago, I may state that all practitioners, I believe, agree that it is at present neither more nor less powerful than it was in the time of Jenner, and that the condition of the human system alone is answerable for the occasional inefficacy of the lymph.

"In conclusion, I would add that, as there seems to be a doubt regarding the statement that immunity from smallpox is in direct ratio to the number of vesicles produced, I have searched for evidence in support of this assertion, and find it stated in the *Lancet* of Dec. 24, 1870, that a child vaccinated in four or six places is protected four or six times more perfectly than a child vaccinated in one place. In the *Half-Yearly Abstract*, vol. iii., just published, in a paper by Dr. A. B. Steele, occurs the following passage:—

The inquiries of Mr. Marson and of the medical department of the Privy Council have established almost conclusively that the degree of protection afforded is in direct proportion to the quality of vaccination. Nothing less than four well-marked typical cicatrices are sufficient to indicate a full measure of protection.

LORD HARTINGTON made his first public appearance as Chief Secretary for Ireland at the annual distribution of prizes to the science and art students in connection with the Royal Dublin Society. The Lord Lieutenant was also present.

THE DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH lies seriously ill with an attack of erysipelas, at Blenheim Palace, where he is attended by his physician, Dr. Acland, of Oxford. From inquiries, however, on Wednesday evening, we understand that his Grace is now progressing favourably.

MR. GLADSTONE AND THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.—A correspondent at Bordeaux writes:—"I learn that a gentleman holding an official position here has received the copy of a letter addressed by Mr. Gladstone to an English member of Parliament, which will tend to disabuse the minds of those Frenchmen who regard the English Cabinet as having hostile feelings towards the present French Government." The letter is as follows:—"Hawarden Castle, Chester, Jan. 10, 1871.—My dear Sir,—It is impossible to read without deep interest the letter of M. Benard, which you have been kind enough to send me. We, who witness with the deepest pain the continual and increasing horrors of the war, must not be surprised if, in that agony—for such it is, though it is an agony of heroism—in which the people of Paris fight for their country, our motives, and even our acts, are not always correctly apprehended. There is no request before us from the French Government for recognition. There never has been any since the mission of M. Thiers, several months ago—very shortly, indeed, after the Government was formed. Yet, for every practical purpose, we have proceeded towards and with them just as if their origin had been the most formal in the world, and never by word or act have we implied that they were not entitled in the highest degree to our sympathy and respect."

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.—The London school board met on Wednesday. Lord Lawrence, who occupied the chair, stated that the Government had issued a circular form as to the statistics to be obtained from each of the metropolitan districts. Mr. George Attenborough was appointed accountant, Mr. G. H. Bromley minute clerk, and Mr. N. A. Rixon junior clerk. Professor Huxley gave notice that he intended to bring on his promised motion on the 15th inst., as to the character of the education to be given in the schools; when Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., said he should move that the Bible be read and taught. The adjourned debate on the question whether the meetings of the board should be opened with prayer was got rid of by a compromise. Thirty-seven members having signed a requisition that a separate room be provided for members who choose to meet for the purpose of united prayer, and the chairman having expressed his readiness to comply, the Rev. J. May and Mr. Smithers withdrew their motions on the subject. Mr. Hepworth Dixon then proposed, and Mr. McGregor seconded, that means be provided for "physical training and drill" in every elementary school. Mr. Lucretius objected to drilling pauper children into soldiers and sailors, and moved that the word "drill" be omitted. After some discussion a division took place, when 15 voted for Mr. Lucretius's amendment and 27 against it. Mr. Dixon's motion was consequently carried. Mr. Lucretius then gave notice that at the next meeting he should propose the adoption of a by-law making education compulsory.

THE REVICTUALLING OF PARIS.—The papers are asked to publish, on behalf of the French Embassy, the following notification:—"An armistice having been signed, and the revictualling of Paris having been agreed upon between Count Bismarck and M. Jules Favre, all goods, especially flour, corn, and coal, that the trade may have in store to this effect, should be at once forwarded by the fastest trains to Dieppe, where the French Government have made arrangements, and are willing to buy the same. No impediment of any kind will be put on the goods, either on the part of the Prussian or of the French authorities." The Lord Mayor's Relief Committee, through Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, have dispatched the first consignment of provisions for Paris, since the armistice, by the South-Eastern Railway. These provisions were sent by special train, and the steamer left Folkestone for Dieppe on Tuesday morning. A special steamer also left Folkestone the night before for Dieppe, by arrangement with Messrs. Rothschild. We understand that the South-Eastern Railway Company will run, when required, special trains and boats to Dieppe until the Calais and Boulogne routes are open for the conveyance of provisions, so as to assist to the utmost in their power in the relief of the suffering people in Paris. From several sources it is stated that the distress in Paris is very great. The railways (Orléans, Nemours and Orleans, Alençon) are to be opened for the purpose of provisioning the city, and also the rivers Seine and Marne, and the roads to the south and west. The most urgent wants of the people are for the present supplied by the German army from its own stores.

A GALA NIGHT IN ROME.

THE Romans are always fond of a furore of some kind or other. At present their most impetuous sentiments of loyalty and affection are deservedly devoted to Princess Margarita and the Prince of Piedmont. On the evening of Jan. 25, the Apollo Theatre afforded a memorable example of their enthusiasm, and the impresario, Signor Jacovacci, reaped a golden harvest by the enormous prices at which he sold his boxes and stalls to the members of the aristocracy and *mezzo-ceto* desirous of witnessing the first appearance, in the newly-constructed Royal box, of the future King and Queen of Italy.

All around the theatre a numerous crowd collected before eight o'clock, in expectation of the arrival of the Prince and Princess. Prince Doria and the members of the Municipal Junta took up their station in the *atrium*, in which, and on the stairs, the firemen in their Roman helmets were paraded, and farther up a double row of gentlemen in full evening dress reached to the entry of the Royal box. The house was crammed. The ladies were in splendid toilettes, and the gentlemen in black coats and white ties, or in uniform. About nine a burst of applause in the street announced the approach of the Royal carriages. Prince Doria received the Princess at the door of her carriage, and offered his arm to conduct her to the Royal box. Prince Humbert gave his arm to the Duchess of Rignano (*née* Doria), lady of honour for the day. The party were enthusiastically applauded through the vestibule and waiting-rooms, and responded most courteously all along. When the curtains of the Royal box were drawn aside and the Royal pair entered, there was a stupendous burst of enthusiasm; and, as all the boxes were crammed, it was curious to see ten or twelve eager heads protruded from each towards the centre of attraction. Three separate times the Prince and Princess had to come forward to the front of the box to respond to the incessant vivas and waving of handkerchiefs of the audience; the Princess, with that charming, graceful courtesy which distinguished her, and his Royal Highness, with manly but almost too serious demeanour. Princess Margarita, who sat on the Prince's right, wore a white moire dress, with perpendicular stripes of gold on the skirt, and broad gold volants, and a very long train. On her head she wore the beautiful gold diadem of oak-leaves executed by Signor Castellani, and presented to her Royal Highness by the Roman ladies on her marriage, and round her neck magnificent pearls. After the Royal hymn, a cantata, expressly composed for the occasion by the Maestro Lucilla, was executed, and then the ballet commenced. The subject was a national one; and when the hero, Pietro Micca, in the performance of his part, came forward and kissed enthusiastically the banner of the Cross of Savoy, fresh demonstrations were made by the audience in honour of the members of that Royal house present among them for the first time on such an occasion.

After the ballet the Prince and Princess rose to depart, the public making demonstrations similar to those which marked their entry. The corridors and stairs were immediately crowded by spectators anxious to get a near glance at their Royal Highnesses. Prince Doria again conducted the Princess, who wore a magnificent *camail* of ermine. Prince Humbert re-conducted the Duchess of Rignano, who was wrapped in a rich *sorcia de bal* of Oriental cloth, embroidered with gold.

A serenade had been prepared for the Prince and Princess in the Quirinal gardens on their return to the palace, but there may be too much of anything; and the Princess, who had, previously to going to the opera, entertained all her ladies of honour and their husbands at dinner, and doubtless felt sure of sleeping without requiring any rocking or any more music, begged that the midnight compliment might be deferred until another occasion.

THE LONDON POLICE COURTS.

FAITH OR FATALISM.—At Lambeth, on Wednesday, Mr. John Walter Harvey, of Brawell-road, Brixton, was summoned by the guardians of St. Mary's, Lambeth, for neglecting to have his child, Thomas Gardner Harvey, vaccinated in accordance with the Vaccination Act, 30 and 31 Vict., cap. 84. Mr. Fraser appeared for the parish, and the defendant attended in person. Evidence was given that the vaccinator, Mr. Capel, had required the defendant to have his child vaccinated. The child was born on Dec. 13, 1869, and registered on Jan. 17, 1870. The defendant stated to the magistrate that what he had done was not from obstinacy, but from a conscientious belief in God's protection; and he did not know why he should afflict his child by vaccination. Mr. Chance told him we all required God's protection, and one way to prevent disease and the fearful spread of smallpox was vaccination. He thought the objection was foolish. A man worked for his child to keep it, and should have it vaccinated to keep it well and prevent the spread of the disease. The defendant said he objected to fire insurance and to insurance against accident, and, relying on the Almighty's protection, he objected to vaccination. He knew magistrates were set for the punishment of evil-doers, and for the praise of those who do well, but he saw no escape. Mr. Chance ordered him to pay a fine of 10s. and costs of the summons. He hoped he would take a different view of the matter and have the child vaccinated, or the penalty would be increased on the next occasion.

A "TIPSYMANIAC."—At Hammersmith, on Wednesday, Captain Instone, of Hampton-court-villa, Alton-vale, was summoned by Frederick Villiers Hazell, a cabman, for the payment of 20s., the fare for the hire of his cab. The defendant did not appear, but he was represented by Mr. F. Turner, barrister-at-law. The complainant, on being sworn, said that on Tuesday week last he was called to Panton-street, Haymarket, to take up the defendant and a lady. He drove them to several places, including Birch's, Cornhill, where they had luncheon. He was afterwards ordered to drive gently about the City. He drove them as required, and then to Leadenhall-market, where some poultry was bought, and placed in the cab. He next drove them to St. Paul's churchyard, where the gentleman bought a purse, posture,

for the lady; from there to the Bank and back to Panton-street. He was then ordered to take the defendant home to Acton, where he gave him sixpence for refreshment and told him to call the next morning for his fare. Witness said he could not, and then the defendant took up a poker and threatened to knock out his brains if he did not leave the house. Witness left and called the next morning, but he was not paid. Mr. Turner said he was instructed to appear for the friends, who wished the cab fraternity to know what kind of man the defendant was, as he was given to tipsymania, which was the mildest term he could put on his conduct. On that very day he drew £5 from the solicitor who instructed him; and when he reached home he had not sufficient money to pay the fare. Mr. Ingham thought the claim was just, under the circumstances, and ordered the defendant to pay £1 and 7s. costs.

THE GREAT JEWEL ROBBERY.—A woman named Torpey, who is charged with having aided her husband to rob an assistant of Messrs. London and Ryder of jewellery valued at £2500, was last Saturday brought up on remand at the Marylebone Police Court. It was stated by the solicitor for the prosecution that neither the stolen property nor the prisoner's husband had as yet been discovered. The evidence of Mr. Parkes, the assistant who was overpowered by Torpey and his wife, was taken, and in the course of his examination the cords and the handkerchief with which he was bound and blindfolded were produced in court. He identified the prisoner as the woman concerned in the robbery. Miss Goodrich, of Southampton, having deposed to having received from the accused a box containing jewellery, a further remand was granted.

YOUNG THIEVES AT SUPPER.

NED WRIGHT, the humble philanthropist whose endeavours to reclaim the dangerous classes of the metropolis are already familiar to the public, gave, on Monday evening, one of his singular suppers to such boys of Deptford as could show at least one conviction for felony as their title to a card of invitation. The place chosen as the scene of the strange festival was the Gospel Mission-Hall, in Hull-street, Deptford; and in this place about 150 boys were assembled at six on Monday evening. It is the fashion to describe these young "prigs," as they are called in thieves' slang, as presenting striking peculiarities both in physiognomy and figure; but we are bound to state that Monday evening's assemblage looked exceedingly like any other gathering of boys of the humbler class, and that if we had not been told they were convicted young thieves, we should have taken them for ordinary juvenile "gentlemen of the pavement," who had not as yet acquired any title to a record in the *Newgate Calendar*. They were some of them pale, some of them ruddy, and one of them was decidedly handsome, with quite an aristocratic air and deportment. They were neither ill dressed (for their class) nor apparently ill nourished, although the eagerness with which they rushed at the homely fare provided for them indicated appetites that required no artificial stimulus. Their conduct was orderly and decorous, their attention to Ned Wright's discourse complete, and their mode of responding to and joining in the hymns indicated, at least, that their early Sunday-school training had not been altogether forgotten. The company, we were informed, consisted partly of juvenile "smashers," or passers of base coin, and partly of thieves who prey ordinarily on butchers and cheesemongers' shops and other places in which trade is carried on with open windows. Supper, which consisted of peaseoup, flavoured with Australian beef and mutton, and great hunks of bread, was introduced precisely at six o'clock, and the appearance of the attendants with the cans was the signal for vociferous cheering from the boys. They all fell to at once with a will, and the rapidity with which they each emptied one, two, and generally three, large basins of their broth in succession was perfectly astonishing to the visitors. Ned, having allowed his guests thoroughly to enjoy themselves, proceeded to address to them one of his peculiar, rambling, but at bottom thoroughly earnest and improving discourses. First, God's blessing was asked on the humble meal which had been so highly relished, and then Ned gave out and the boys joined in a hymn, the latter picking up the words with a quick intelligence, and singing in good time, although at times with a little superfluous energy. Hardly was the hymn finished, when Ned broke in with his own juvenile reminiscences of Deptford. He remembered, when quite a lad, passing along the Deptford-road handcuffed, and waiting for what? A hundred young shrill voices shouted together—"The 'bus!' which, we were informed, is the polite term for the prison van. A picture was then drawn of what a manhood such youthful adventures led up to; and the interest taken by the audience was evidenced by many a characteristic ejaculation. A skillful comparison was next made between "her Majesty's 'bus'" and the comfortable 'bus of honest life, and the boys were earnestly exhorted to make life's future journeys, if possible, in the latter. The usual mixture of hymn and exhortation followed, Ned speaking with an affectionate earnestness which brought tears into the eyes of many of the boys; and, in conclusion, he appealed to all who wished to lead an honest life to hold up their hands, promising them plenty of work if they would meet him the following morning at the railway arch in the Old Kent-road. About half the assemblage held up their hands with great readiness; but the other half thrust them down, as if more emphatically to indicate their objection to being reformed. In the course of the lecture a striking instance was afforded of the familiarity of the audience with our criminal annals. Ned having commenced a very graphic description of the career of a very young murderer, whose trial and execution he had himself witnessed, forgot the name of his hero; and, on appealing to the boys to assist his memory with the name, the shrill voice of a mere child shouted out "Mickey" from a remote corner of the room. The proceedings terminated with a hymn and a prayer, in which about half the boys remained to join, and when Ned asked them whether they would sit or kneel, the whole of the boys present preferred the more reverential

CATTLE-STARVING.—At the Guildford Petty Sessions, last Saturday, before Mr. A. Chandler (chairman) and a full bench of magistrates, Mr. William Kempson Denham, a gentleman farmer, of Upper House Farm, Womersley, but residing at Sussex-place, Southsea, was charged, at the instance of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, with causing ten cows and four steers to be cruelly ill-treated, abused, and tortured. Mr. Andrews, an officer of the society, appeared to prosecute; and Mr. George White, solicitor, of Guildford, defended. From the evidence of Mr. Henry Taylor, one of the society's inspectors, Mr. James Broad and Mr. A. Cherry, veterinary surgeons, it appeared that they recently visited the defendant's farm, where they found five cows, five heifers, and five steers in a state of dreadful starvation. The officers declared they never met with a worse case of the kind. As the cattle moved about in a yard filled with slush their hocks struck against each other, and they fell down from sheer weakness. It was only after a deal of struggling that they managed to get up again. All the animals had the peculiar stare common to starvation. The officers found no food on the premises. Scarcely any animal had the power to walk, and the place in which they were kept was void of all shelter, except a small shed which would hold four. The yard was filled with holes 18 in. in depth, made before the frost. When the frost came this produced hillocks which it was impossible for the animals to walk on. The shed was in the same condition. From the state of the animals they must have been in a constant degree of suffering incapable of being realised. John Ketcher said he had been in the defendant's employ since Michaelmas, and had care of the stock. It was his duty to feed the animals. There was nothing for them to eat but the grass which they got out of the hedges and in the fields, and of which there was not a sufficiency. Lately they had been locked out of the fields, and had only the food on the common. He had written to the defendant from time to time informing him of the condition of the animals, but in his replies he never stated he would send any food. Within the last month, however, he had been supplied with some barley meal and some bran, the whole of which he gave to the pigs and horses. Police-Constable Higginson, Surrey County Constabulary, and Mr. Charles Smithers, executor to the late owner of Upper House farm, occupied by the defendant, also gave evidence as to the state of fearful starvation in which the animals were found. Mr. White, in defence, urged that the intention of Mr. Denham

to starve the animals had been by no means proved. It was admitted that up to the middle of November there was plenty of grass, and Mr. White endeavoured to show that after this his client had done all he could to procure food. He referred to the fact that six sacks of oats were admitted to have been received by Ketcher, and, if this food was given to the cattle, he argued that their condition could not have been so bad on Jan. 2 as had been represented. After the Bench had deliberated a few minutes, the chairman said there was the strongest evidence that the defendant had infringed the Act of Parliament, and that he had shown the grossest negligence. He then inflicted a fine of £5, and £2 10s. 6d. costs, remarking that he was not at all sure the Bench ought not to have dealt more severely with the case. The defendant asked to be allowed to state the gross quantity of food he had sent to the farm for the use of the cattle; but the Bench refused to comply with the request. The court was crowded during the hearing of the case, which excited great interest in the locality.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JAN. 27

BANKRUPTICS.—J. F. N. DANIELL, Norfolk-crescent, Hyde Park—H. W. THURSTON, Swinton-street, Gray's-inn-road, attorney's clerk—J. COLEMAN, Bush Caxton, near Rochester, builder—R. ETHERINGTON, Liverpool, innkeeper and cattle-dealer—J. HILLIS, Waterford, Bengeo, miller—R. NELSON, Manchester, watchmaker—J. RAMWELL, Newton, licensed victualler—T. WILLIAMS, St. Bride's, Major—T. K. WRIGHT, drapier.

SCOTCH SUCCESSIONS.—J. W. ALEXANDER, Edinburgh—A. CHALMERS or DOUGLAS, Perth—T. POLLARD, jun., Glasgow, grocer.

TUESDAY, JAN. 31

BANKRUPTICS ANNULLED.—F. E. BALL and F. F. BALL, fun, Christchurch, coal merchants and stationers—F. E. BUTCHER, Sutton, Surrey, builder—H. P. A. P. CLINTON, Duke of Newcastle, Carlton House-terrace and Chamber-Taxford—H. POWNEY, Leicester, elastic-web manufacturer—J. P. ROE, Bute Foundry, Cardiff, engineer—J. STANLEY, York, ironmonger.

BANKRUPTICS.—J. FARDELL, Trinity-square, Tower-hill, carman—H. MARTIN, Milbourne-green, West Bromwich, Captain Royal Artillery—J. D. MEADS, Leyton, Boreham and Fish-street-hill, financial agent and surveyor—S. L. PRATT, New Bond-street, importer of ancient furniture—F. C. CLARKE, Alder-holt, Lieutenant 6th Regiment—W. CLEAVER, Tenbury Wells, colliery agent—J. COLEMAN, Bush Caxton, builder—R. KENDALL, Llandudno, wine and spirit merchant—J. E. LEE, Dowsbury, woollstapler—F. MINER, T. Betchton, grocer—E. RICHARDS, Wantage, licensed victualler—R. S. ROWLANDS, Liverpool, iron merchant—W. RYAN, Liverpool, hat and cap manufacturer—T. THOROGOOD, Beabourn, carpenter and builder—J. WEST, Chichester, builder and timber-dealer—THOMAS, Swanage, flax dealer and dresser—G. WOOD, jun., Wednesbury, builder.

SCOTCH SUCCESSIONS.—FLEMING BROTHERS and CO., Glasgow, merchants—W. HANNAH, Greenock, ironmonger—M. FORSYTH, or MACINTYRE, Glasgow, grocer and wine merchant—D. ADAMS, Dalkeith, builder—A. NEILSON, Dalreich, bolt and rivet maker—RENTON, boatowner and coal merchant—J. B. MAXWELL, Glasgow.



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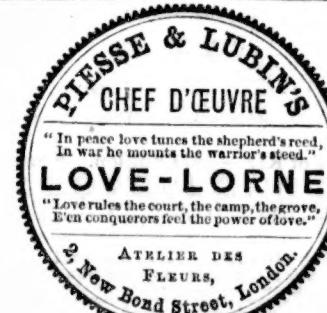
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fragrant, simple, and stainless,
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